

This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

#### Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

- + *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.
- + Refrain from automated querying Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.
- + *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.
- + *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

#### **About Google Book Search**

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at http://books.google.com/



The

Gorden Lester Ford

Collection

Presented by his Sons

Urrthington Chaunce, Ford

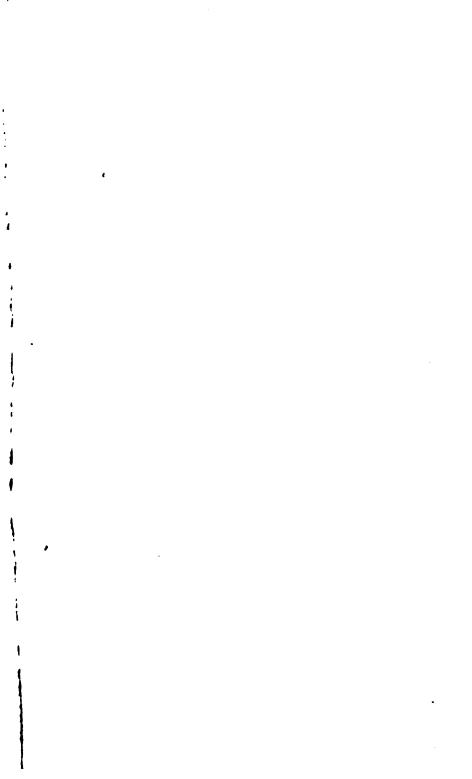
and
Paul Leicester Ford

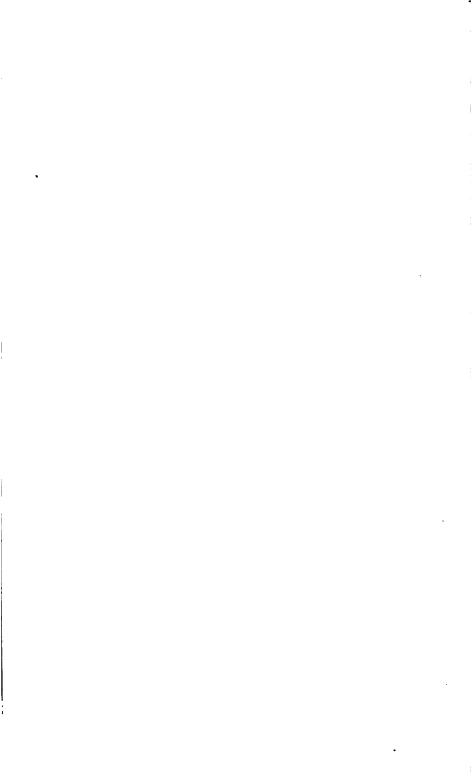
to the

New York Public Sibrary

Men.







## THE NEW

## ANNUAL REGISTER,

OR

GENERAL REPOSITORY

OF

HISTORY,

POLITICS,

ARTS, SCIENCES,

AND

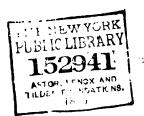
LITERATURE

For the Year 1823.

LONDON:

PUBLISHED BY B. J. HOLDSWORTH, 18, st. paul's church-yard.

1824.





LONDON:
PRINTED BY S. AND R. BENTLEY, DORSET STREET.

### PREFACE.

It is now nearly half a century since we first undertook our office of General Chroniclers: a period comprising events of greater interest to the world in general, and this country in particular, than any fifty years within the retrospect of History—more mighty convulsions of war—greater advances in Science—more violent struggles of good and evil—more victories of Liberty—more improvements in the moral condition of mankind.

The past has been a year of peculiar interest, and one upon which the eye of the future historian will often fix. Despotism has shewn itself in its true colours, selfish, cruel, and irreclaimable—in close alliance with Bigotry and Ignorance. A reviving spirit has gone abroad. Intellect has arisen, which had long lain prostrate; and events have proved, that where men are resolved to be rationally free, no power on earth can bind them.

We have spared no pains to enrich our volume with whatever may be worthy of preserving. Some new periodical documents are added this year, in addition to those which have been inserted in former volumes.

May 18, 1824.

## STATE OFFICERS OF ENGLAND AND IRELAND.

	Earl of Liverpool. Earl of Eldon.
Lord Privy-Seal E	arl of Westmorland.
	Carl of Harrowby.
	Right Hon. R. Peel.
Secretary of State for the Foreign Department	light Hon. G. Canning.
Secretary of State for the Colonial	Carl Bathurst.
Chancellor of the Exchequer . R	Right Hon. F. J. Robinson.
	Viscount Melville.
	Duke of Wellington.
President of the Board of Control R Chancellor of the Duchy of Lan-	Right Hon. C. W. W. Wynne.
	ord Bexley.
Master of the Mint L	ord Maryborough.
L	ord Sidmouth.

## The above form the Cabinet.

Lord Steward	Marquis of Conyngham.
Lord Chamberlain	Duke of Montrose.
Master of the Horse	Duke of Dorset.
Secretary at War	Viscount Palmerston.
Treasurer of the Navy, and Presi-	
dent of the Board of Trade	Rt. Hon. W. Huskisson.
Paymaster of the Forces	Rt. Hon. Sir Charles Long.
Vice-President of the Board of	•
Trade	Rt. Hon. Sir Charles Grant.
Post Master General	Earl of Chichester.
LieutGeneral of the Ordnance .	Viscount Beresford.
First Commissioner of the Land	
Revenue	Rt. Hon. C. Arbuthnot.
Attorney General	Sir Robert Gifford, Knt.
Solicitor General	Sir J. S. Copley, Knt.

#### IRELAND.

Lord Lieutenant of	Ire	lar	ıd		Marquis Wellesley.
Lord Chancellor .					Lord Manners.
Commander of the	Fo	rce	8		Lord Combermere.
Chief Secretary .					Rt. Hon. H. Goulborn.
					Rt. Hon. Sir G. F. Hill, Bart.
Attorney General					Rt. Hon. W. C. Plunket.
Solicitor General	•			•	Henry Joye, Esq.

## CONTENTS.

#### BRITISH AND FOREIGN HISTORY.

#### CHAP. I.

Opening of Parliament.—The King's Speech.—Address.— Irish Yeomanry.
—Foreign Trade Committee.—Committee of Supply.—Austrian Loan.—
Ordnance Department.—France and Spain.—Beer Licensing.—Conquered Colonies.—State Prosecutions in Ireland.—Orange Lodges.—Cash Payments.—Corn Laws.—Weights and Measures, &c. &c.—Petitions against Marriage Act.—Debtors Act.—Agricultural Distress.—Taxes.—Jenuits.—Loss by Cash Payments, &c. &c.

page 3

#### CHAP. II.

Supplies.—Penitentiary at Milbank.—Duties on East India Sugars.—Sinking Fund.—Marriage Act Amendment.—Irish Assessed Taxes.—Church Establishment of Ireland.—Official Reports.—Orange Societies in Ireland.—Commutation of Irish Tithes.—Disposal of his Majesty's Property.—Warehousing Act.—Agricultural Distress.—The King's Library.—Game Laws.—Merchant Vessel Apprentice Bill.—Mutiny Bill.—Division of Counties.—Ordnance Estimates.—Slave Trade.—Repeal of Assessed Taxes.—France and Spain.—Monument to Lords St. Vincent and Duncan.—Cape Breton.—Beer Trade.—Sundry Petitions, &c.

#### CHAP. III.

The Catholic Question.—Irish First Fruits.—Crown Prisoners.—Registry of Vessels Bill.—Military and Naval Pension Bill.—Irish Estimates.

—Militiu Reduction Bill.—Foreign Affairs.—Attorney-General of Ircland.—The Foreign Enlistment Bill.—Catholic Claims.—Miscellaneous Estimates.—Game Laws.—State of the Navy.—Parliamentary Reform.

—Dublin Grand Jury.—Master and Apprentices Bill.—Bill to repeat Whipping.—Beer Bill.—Dismission of Mr. White.—Sundry Pelitons, Sc. & C.

#### CHAP. IV.

The Warehousing Bill.—Sheriff of Dublin.—Occasional Freeholders Bill.

—Game Laws.—Irish Militia Reduction Bill.—Spitalfields Trade.—
Scotch Linen Acts.—Foreign Negotiations.—Continuance of the Irish

Insurrection Bill Marriage Act Customs Duties Act West Indian
Slavery Registry of Beer Licences Bill Criminal Laws Repeal of a
Standing Order.—Duties on East and West India Sugars.—East India
Company Mutiny and Desertion Bill Commutation of Tithes Bill
Reciprocity of Duties Bill.—Irish Joint Tenantcy Bill.—Sundry Private
Bills, Petitions, &c 184

#### CHAP. V.

Scotch Entails.—Scotch Representation.—Marriage Act Amendment.—
Irish Joint Tenancy.—Mr. M. Borthwick.—Adjustment of Contracts.—
Scotch Transference of Securities Bill.—Law of Settlement.—Baron
O'Grady.—Court of Chancery.—Sale of Game.—London Bridge Advance Bill.—Reciprocity Duties Bill.—Irish Tithe Commutation Bill.—
Scotch and Irish Distillery Bill.—Spitalfields' Silk Act.—Leeward Island 4½ per Cent.—Expense of Coronation.—Civil List.—Cash Payments.— Dissenters Marriage Bill.—Brimstone Duties Druwback.—
English Juries.—Assessed Taxes Composition.—Prison Laws Consolidation.—Beer Bill.—Usury Laws.—Burning of Widows in India.—State of Ireland.—Radical Reform.—Navy Promotion.—Scotch Juries.—Scotch Commissioners.—Supply.—Irish Insurrection Act.—Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.—Capital Punishment.—House of Lords Appellate Jurisdiction.—
Administration of Justice in Ireland.—Merchants Bill.—Criminal Laws.—
Sundry Petitions, &c. &c.

#### CHAP. VI.

Appellate Jurisdiction.—Supply.—Prosecution for Infidel Publications.—
The Budget.—Baron O'Grady.—East India Trade Bill.—Slave Trade
Consolidation Bill.—Scotch Entails.—Irish Insurrection Act.—Marriage
Act Amendment.—New South Wales.—Land Tax.—English Catholics.
—Jurors Qualification.—Court of Chancery.—Scottish Law Commission.
Illegal Oaths (Ireland) Bill.—Slaves at Honduras.—Churches in Ireland.
—Silk Manufactures.—Highlands Church Bill.—Sundry Petitions, &c.—
Prorogation of Parliament 382

#### CHAP. VII.

#### CHAP. VIII.

#### PUBLIC PAPERS.

The three Official Notes sent by Russia, Austria, and Prussia to their re	mpec-
tive Ministers at Madrid, preparatory to the French Invasion	446
Reply to the Note of the French Minister	455
Ditto to those of Russia, Austria, and Prussia	457
Speech of the King of France, January 28th	458

Petition presented to Parliament from the City for Reform	459
Petition against religious Prosecutions	465
American Annual Treasury Report	468
Circular of the Holy Alliance Report of the Committee of Agricultural Distress in Scotland	476
Report of the Committee of Agricultural Distress in Scotland !	480
Despatch upon the State of Ireland from the Lord Lieutenant to Mr.	
Secretary Peel	482
Lord Holland's Protest upon the Spanish Question	486
Believe of Berman Dellan	
Petition of Rarmer Deller	488
Account of Expenses of His Majesty's Coronation	491
Abstract of the Net Produce of the Revenue of Great Britain	493
The Budget Expenses of Foreign Stations	498
Expenses of Foreign Stations	501
The Royal Forests	602
The Royal Forests	ib.
South American Consular Appointments	504
Slave Shipe	ib.
Petition from Jamaica	505
Prussian Constitution	509
Russian Finances	510
Persian Invitation	511
South American Independence  Decree of the King of Spain, upon his liberation	513
Decree of the King of Spain, upon his liberation	515
Petition from Corunna in favour of the Inquisition, &c	516
DRINGIDAL OCCUPRENCES :- AL. V 1000	<b>/03</b>
PRINCIPAL OCCURRENCES in the Year 1828	(3)
Marriages	(65)
Deaths	(67)
Notice of Celebrated Persons	(70)
Diese of the Runds	• •
Prices of the Funds Prices of Foreign Stocks	(81)
Trices of Foreign Stocks	(82)
LITERARY RETROSPECT AND SELECTIONS.	
CHAP. I.	
BIOGRAPHICAL ANECDOTES AND CHARACTERS.	
	Γo-
1 Memoirs of Marie Antoinette	[3]
2 Reminiscences of Charles Butler	[12]
3 Letters of Cowper	[14]
4 Journal of Las Cases	[16]
5 Memoirs of Count Rapp	[59]
6 Exploits of the Empecinado	Ī671
6 Exploits of the Empecinado	711
8 The Last Hours of Sir Walter Rawleigh	731
9 Memoirs of Baron de Kolli	77
10 Royal Naval Biography	
Voyages and Travels.	[86]
	F007
11 A Journey to the Shore of the Polar Sea, by Captain Franklin	[90]
12 Voyage to the North Whale Fishery, by Capt. Scoresby	
	[103]
13 Hunter's Indian Captivity	[103] [110] [114]

15 Malcolm's Memoir of Central India [1	
In the medical a tite was all constant transmitted and the second of the	177
16 Memorable Days in America, by W. Faux	207
17 Travels in Egypt, &c. by Capts. Irby and Mangles [1	125]
18 Remarks on the Country from Cape Palmas to the River Congo,	
by Capt. Adams	29]
19 Ten Months' Residence in New Zealand [1	40]
20 James's Expedition to the Rocky Mountains	49]
21 Recollections of the Peninsula	65]
28 Burchell's Travels in Africa	71]
23 State of Jamaica[1	85]
	<b>92]</b>
25 Ascent of Mont Blanc, by F. Clissold [1	[80
26 Buckland's Reliquiæ Diluvianæ [9	<b>(10</b>
Belles Lettres.	
27 Sismondi's Literature of the South of Europe [2	7209
La Samonara Entratar of the Samon of Entratar Control	
CHAP. II.	
Description International Prome to Anne Southern	
Dung corner and inventions, — racts in Akis, Sciences, A	
DISCOVERIES AND INVENTIONS, — FACTS IN ARTS, SCIENCES, A PHILOSOPHY	101
Meteoric Account for the few 1025	10]
CHAP. III.	
G	
STATE OF THE FINE ARTS [9	:19]
POETRY.	
I ODINI.	
From Lord Byron's Poem of HEAVEN AND EARTH [2	23]
	υ. T
	w. j
	94Ì
From Barry Cornwall's FLOOD OF THESSALY [2	24] 25]
From Barry Cornwall's FLOOD OF THESSALY [2 SONNET, by Henry Neele	<b>2</b> 5]
From Barry Cornwall's FLOOD OF THESSALY [2 SONNET, by Henry Neele	25] ib.]
From Barry Cornwall's FLOOD OF THESSALY  SONNET, by Henry Neele. [2 THE PEACH, by James Edmeston [7 To ———, by Ditto [2]	25] ib.] 26]
From Barry Cornwall's FLOOD OF THESSALY  SONNET, by Henry Neele. [2 THE PEACH, by James Edmeston [3 To, by Ditto [2 THE BOX OF RELIGES, by Ditto [2	25] ib.]
From Barry Cornwall's FLOOD OF THESSALY   [2   SONNET, by Henry Neele   [2   The PBACH, by James Edmeston   [3   To	25] ib.] 26] 27]
From Barry Cornwall's FLOOD OF THESSALY   [2   SONNET, by Henry Neele   [2   The PBACH, by James Edmeston   [3   To	25] ib.] 26] 27] 28]
From Barry Cornwall's FLOOD OF THESSALY  SONNET, by Henry Neele	25] ib.] 26] 27] 28] 30]
From Barry Cornwall's FLOOD OF THESSALY  SONNET, by Henry Neele. [2 THE PEACH, by James Edmeston [1 TO	25] ib.] 26] 27] 28] 30]

#### ERRATA.

# BRITISH AND FOREIGN · HISTORY

For the Year 1823.

• . . • • \* \* ·

## BRITISH AND FOREIGN HISTORY

## For the Year 1823.

#### CHAPTER I.

Opening of Parliament.—The King's Speech.—Address.—Irish Yeomanry.—Foreign Trade Committee.—Committee of Supply.—Austrian Loan.—Ordnance Department.—France and Spain.—Beer Licensing.—Conquered Colonies.—State Prosecutions in Ireland.— Orange Lodges.—Cash payments.—Corn Laws.—Weights and Measures, &c., &c.—Petitions against Marriage Act.—Debtors Act.—Agricultural Distress.—Taxes.—Jesuits.—Loss by Cash Payments, &c. &c.

HOUSE of Lords, Feb. 4 .- This being the day to which parliament was prorogued for the dispatch of business, it was opened by commission, at a quarter before three o'clock. The commissioners were the Archbishop of Cunterbury, the Lord Chancellor, the Earls of Harrowby, Westmoreland, The usber of and Skaftesbury. the black rod having been ordered to require the attendance of the house of commons, he withdrew, and in a few moments the speaker, accompanied by several members, appeared at the bar.

The Lord Chancellor then read the speech, which was as follows:—

"My lords, and gentlemen,

"We are commanded by his majesty to inform you, that since he last met you in parliament, his majesty's efforts have been un-

remittingly exerted to preserve the

peace of Europe.

"Faithful to the principles which his majesty has promulgated to the world as constituting the rule of his conduct, his majesty declined being party to any proceedings at Verona which could be deemed an interference in the internal concerns of Spain on the part of foreign powers. And his majesty has since used, and continues to use, his most anxious endeavours and good offices to allay the irritation unhappily subsisting between the French and Spanish governments; and to avert, if possible, the calamity of war between France and Spain.

"In the east of Europe his majesty flatters himself that peace will be preserved, and his majesty continues to receive from his allies, and generally from other powers,

2 assurances

assurances of their unaltered disposition to cultivate with his majesty those friendly relations which it is equally his majesty's object

on his part to maintain.

"We are further commanded to apprise you, that discussions having long been pending with the court of Madrid, respecting depredations committed on the commerce of his majesty's subjects in the West Indian seas, and other grievances of which his majesty had been under the necessity of complaining, those discussions have terminated in an admission by the Spanish government of the justice of his majesty's complaints, and in an engagement for satisfactory reparation.

"We are commanded to assure you, that his majesty has not been unmindful of the addresses presented to him by the two houses of parliament, with respect to the

foreign slave-trade.

"Propositions for the more effectual suppression of that evil were brought forward by his majesty's plenipotentiary in the conferences at Verona, and there have been added to the treaties upon this subject, already concluded between his majesty and the governments of Spain and the Netherlands, articles which will extend the operation of those treaties, and greatly facilitate their execution.

"Gentlemen of the house of commons,

"His majesty has directed the estimates of the current year to be laid before you. They have been framed with every attention to economy; and the total expenditure will be found to be materially below that of last year.

"This diminution of charge, combined with the progressive im-

provement of the revenue, has produced a surplus exceeding his majesty's expectation. His majesty trusts, therefore, that you will be able, after providing for the services of the year, and without affecting public credit, to make a farther considerable reduction in the burdens of his people.

" My lords, and gentlemen,

"His majesty has commanded us to state to you, that the manifestations of loyalty and attachment to his person and government, which his majesty received in his late visit to Scotland, have made the deepest impression upon his heart.

"The provisions which you made in the last session of parliament for the relief of the distresses in considerable districts in Ireland, has been productive of the happiest effects; and his majesty recommends to your consideration such measures of internal regulation as may be calculated to promote and secure the tranquillity of that country, and to improve the habits and condition of the

people.

" Deeply as his majesty regrets the continued depression of the agricultural interest, the satisfaction with which his majesty contemplates the increasing activity which pervades the manufacturing districts, and the flourishing condition of our commerce in most of its principal branches, is greatly enhanced by the confident persuasion that the progressive prosperity of so many of the interests of the country cannot fail to contribute to the gradual improvement of that great interest which is the most important of them all."

After the speech was read, the Earl

Earl of Tunkerville took the oaths and his seat; and the house adjourned to five o'clock.

At a quarter past five, the house resumed.

Lord Ellenborough gave notice of his intention to move an amendment to the marriage act passed last session.

The king's speech having been again read over by the Lord Chanecllor, and subsequently by the clerk.

The Earl of Morley rose to move the address. In a speech of considerable length, he adverted to each point of his majesty's speech separately.

The Earl of Mayo rose to second the address, and made a few observations.

The Earl of Stankope rose, and after remarking in detail upon the different circumstances of present distress, moved as an amendment. the following concluding paragraph.-" That this house views with the deepest regret and anxiety the severe and unexampled distress which now afflicts the country, and will immediately proceed to inquire and to examine into its causes, and also the results which have arisen from altering the value of the currency, and the means of administering speedy and effectual relief."

The Marquis of Lansdown spoke in favour of the original address, as he conceived the subjects mentioned and discussed at so great length by his noble friend, must come shortly under the serious consideration of the house. He however remarked upon the slight manner in which the invasion of Spain was mentioned.

The Earl of Liverpool spoke also in favour of the original

address, upon the same principle as the noble marquis had done; but with regard to Spain he considered the question purely Spanish, and deprecated any movement which might disturb the peace of England.

Lord Ellenborough commented upon that part of his majesty's speech which related to Spain, and thought the steps of ministers not so decided as they ought to have been. He thought this conduct by no means likely to be the means of preserving peace.

The Earl of Darnley thought a more convenient opportunity might suggest itself for the discussion of the topics noticed in the amendment of his noble friend, which, therefore, he would not now support.

The Earl of Liverpool, in answer to a question from Lord Darnley, then observed, that the consideration of the state of Ireland would be brought by his majesty's government under the attention of their lordships at as early a day as possible.

Their lordships then divided on Lord Stanhope's amendment—Content, 3—Not Content, 62—Majority against it, 59.

Adjourned.

House of Commons, Feb. 4.—The Speaker took the chair at about three o'clock, and was soon after summoned by the usher of the black rod to the house of peers. On his return he retired into his private room, and resumed the chair at about four o'clock.

The Speaker stated to the house, that he had been directed to issue his warrants to the clerk of the crown of Ireland, for a new writ for the county of Sligo, in the room of Charles O'Hara, Esq., deceased;

deceased: and also for the county of Dublin, in the room of Huns Hamilton, Esq., deceased; and also new writs for the borough of Orford, in the room of the Marquis of Londonderry deceased; for the borough of Derby, in the room of Edward Miller Mundy deceased; for the county of Salop, in the room of Sir John Kynaston Powell, Bart., deceased; for Ross-shire, in the room of Thomas Mackensie, Esq., deceased; for the university of Cambridge, in the room of John Henry Smyth, Esq., deceased; and for the borough of Wilton, in the room of Ralph Sheldon, Esq., deceased.

Lord John Russell moved a new writ for Peterborough, in the room of James Scarlett, Esq., who had accepted the office of steward of one of his majesty's Chiltern hundreds.

Mr. Lushington moved a new writ for Liverpool, in the room of the Right Hon. George Canning, who had accepted the office of one of his majesty's secretaries of state. He also moved new writs for Harwich, in the room of the Right Hon. Nicholas Vansittart, who had accepted the Chiltern hundreds; for the borough of Harwich, in the room of the Right Hon. Charles Bathurst, who had also accepted the Chiltern hundreds; for the borough of Ripon, in the room of the Right Hon. F. G. Robinson, who had accepted the office of chancellor of the exchequer; for the borough of Chichester, in the room of the Right Hon. William Huskisson, who had accepted the office of treasurer of his majesty's navy; for the borough of St. Germains, in the room of the Right Hon. Charles Arbuthnot, who had accepted the office of first commissioner of his majesty's woods and forests; for the borough of New Windsor, in the room of Sir Herbert Taylor, who had accepted the office of steward of the manor of East Hendred; for the borough of Berwick, in the room of Viscount Osculston, now Earl of Tankerville; and for the borough of Coleraine, in the room of Sir John P. Beresford, who had accepted an office in his majesty's east stannaries.

The clandestine marriage bill, the first bill of the session, was, according to form, read a first time.

Mr. Hume gave notice, that on the 6th of March he should submit a motion to the house respecting the church establishment of Ireland, the church property of Ireland, and the commutation of tithes. He also gave notice, that on the 6th of this month he should move for a copy of the report of the commissioners of crown lands; also a copy of the letter from the Irish government to Mr. Goulburn, respecting the office of vicetreasurer of Ireland, and a copy of any warrants issued respecting the establishment of such office.

Mr. G. Bennet said, that in consequence of the indisposition of his honourable friend the member for Essex, he now gave notice in the name of that honourable member, that on an early day he (Mr. Western) would submit a motion to the house on the state of the currency.

Lord John Russell gave notice of his intention of submitting a motion shortly after the recess, on the subject of parliamentary reform.

Mr. Hume gave notice, that on the 11th of the present month he should should move that an account of the separate estimate of the revenues and expenditure of each of the colonies belonging to Great Britain be laid before the house.

Mr. Maberly gave notice, that on the 18th of March he should move for a return of the state of the revenue, the expenditure, and the sinking fund, and for the immediate repeal of the whole of the assessed taxes. He would tomorrow move for papers on the subject, and he would take that. opportunity of saying a few words, lest any alarm should be created which would have the effect of injuring the public credit. His. object was only to diminish the taxes to the amount of the sinking fund, thus affording to the country. the benefit of that diminution without injuring the public credit.

Mr. Wynn, in the absence of the attorney-general for Ireland, gave notice of a motion for that hon. member on the catholic question, for Thursday, the 20th of

this month.

Mr. P. Moore gave notice of a motion for the 17th instant.

The Speaker acquainted the house, that he had attended at the house of peers to bear his majesty's speech read. He then directed the clerk to read the speech.

The speech having been read

accordingly,

Mr. Childe rose, to move the address; he rejoiced in the declaration of his majesty's efforts to preserve the peace of Europe; it was an unequivocal admission of the right of self-government upon the part of a foreign nation; healso touched upon the other topics of the speech, and concluded by moving the address.

Mr. Wildman rose to second the address, and spoke much to the same effect; the address was then read from the chair, and,

Sir J. Yorke rose, he said, not to first, or second, but third the address: he then remarked upon the impropriety of this country taking any step which might lead to war.

Mr. Brougham rose, he said, in. consequence of the appeal made to every member of the house by. the gallant officer who had just sat down to declare his sentiments: he answered to that appeal, which did credit to the honour, to the English feeling of that gallant officer, and he joined with him,. and with every man who deserved the name of Briton, in unqualified abhorrence and detestation at the practice of interference to which he had alluded; or if that detestation was qualified, it was only by indignation and disgust at the canting hypocrisy of the language in which the atrocious principles. of the parties concerned were promulgated. He had risen to make this declaration, called upon as he. was in common with every member; but he should ill discharge his duty if he did not mark his sense of the candour of the two bon. gentlemen who had moved and seconded the address, and express his satisfaction at what, in the house, whatever its division upon other points, would be almost, and in the country certainly unanimously felt to be, the sound and liberal view which they had taken of this matter. Indeed, he knew not how, circumstanced as they were, they could go farther; or how his majesty's ministers could, in the present state of this very intricate affair, have gone be-

yond

yond the communication of this day. That communication would be a diffusion of joy and exultation to England—it would diffuse joy and exultation to Spain, would be a source of comfort to other states, but would bring confusion and dismay to the allies, who, by a pretended respect, but a real mockery of religion and morality, made war upon liberty in the abstract, and endeavoured to crush independence wherever it was to be found, and who were now ready with their armed hordes to carry their baleful projects into execution. Spain would take comfort from the principles avowed in that house this evening, he was certain; and he was not less certain, that the handful of men who at presentsurrounded our nearest and most interesting neighbour, (who, by the way, had some how or other endeavoured to get over the prudent councils which had till of late prevailed with him,) would feel dismayed with those principles in proportion as others would be en-Cheering, however, as couraged. was the prevalence of such sentiments, highly as they raised the character of the nation, and much as might be argued from their effects, still be thought no man could deny that the country was at present involved in a crisis such as had not occurred almost within a century, but certainly not since the French revolution. he viewed the internal condition of the kingdom, the severe distress which pressed upon that most important and most useful branch of the community, the agriculturists, or cast his eyes upon our external relations, our circumstances were, in the mind of every thinking man, critical and alarming.

They might, it was true, soon wear a better aspect; but to tell that the result would be favourable, he must be a bold and fearless man, and not a little of a prophet who could say that we should have that happy fortune. It was the deep consideration of these circumstances which induced him to come forward and make a declaration of his principles; and these were, the adherence to the most rigid economy in every department—that economy which he was at all times, if not the first, at least amongst the foremost, to support, and which was so necessary under all circumstances, but particularly under the changewhich had taken place in the condition of a large portion of the community. He feared that the distresses of the last year bad received but a very partial relief from the reduction of certain taxes... With respect to our situation as related to foreign affairs, he would suy, that we ought not to make the least diminution in our naval force. If any reform could be effected in its management, let it be done; if any abuses existed, let inquiry be made, and let them be redressed; but he for one would. not diminish its present force by a single ship, or even by one man. In our present situation, as arising from the aspect of foreign affairs, any reduction in the most important branch of our national strength would not be economy-it would be the height of impolicy. same argument, however, did not, in his opinion, apply to any other branch of the public service. Let: the aspect of foreign affairs be even more threatening, he would not increase the army; and after the unparalleled prodigality with which

the last great army of England was maintained in the last war, the evils of which we felt and should feel for years, no friend to this country would wish to see any increase in her military establishments. Even should we feel it necessary to assist the Spaniards, he did not think that a military force would be required. then, did he recommend economical reduction in every branch of our service except the navy?--because he thought that if war once commenced, we should soon be compelled to take some part in it one way or other, and that for such an emergency, every shilling which could be saved by the most rigid economy should be re-He thought our interserved. vention in some shape would be unavoidable. We were bound to assist one party, our old ally Portugal, if she should be engaged; and it was not likely that she could remain neuter, if the present ill-fated conspiracy against Spain should proceed to open hostility. In this view of the question it was, in which he differed from the gallant officer (Sir C. Yorke) who last spoke; and he was glad that he could not collect from the hon. mover or seconder, the words " strict neutrality," as applying to this country in the threatened contest. A state of declared neutrality on our part would be nothing less than a declared permission of those evils which we condemned, and a tacit allowance of the atrocious principles which we were unanimous in deprecating. He would say, therefore, that it would be the duty of his majesty's ministers, with whom he should be glad to co-operate on the occasion—and so, he was certain,

would every one who then heard. him-to come to the resolution. that when certain things should take place on the continent, they should be ready to assist the Spaniards -a measure necessary to prevent evils, which even those the least fond of war must admit to be inevitable. Our assistance would be necessary to avert the wicked enforcement of principles contrary to the law of nations, and repugnant to every idea of national independence. To judge of the principles now avowed, let any man read patiently, if he could, the declarations in the notes of Russia, Prussia, and Austria; and with all due respect to those high authorities, he would venture to say, that to produce any thing more preposterous, more absurd, more extravagant, more calculated to excite a mixed feeling of disgust and derision, would baffle any chancery or state-paper-office in Europe. He would not trouble the house through the whole absurd detail; he would only select a few passages from those notable productions of legitimacy. In the note from the minister of his Prussian majesty, the re-establishment. of the Cortes of 1812 was thus described-" which, confounding all. elements, and all power, and assuming only the single principle of a permanent and legal opposition against the government, necessarily destroyed that central and tutelary authority which constitutes the essence of the monarchical system." Thus far the king of Prussia, in terms, which to say the least, afforded some proof of the writer's knowledge of the monarchical system, and of the contrast which, in his opinion, it bore to the present government

ment of Spain. The Emperor of Russia, in terms not less strong, called the constitutional government of the Cortes, " laws which the public reason of Europe, enlightened by the experience of all ages, stamped with its disapprobation." Where, in the conservative character of keeper of the peace of Europe, did his imperial majesty discover that the constitution of Spain had been stamped with the disapprobation of the public reason of Europe? Let the house observe that the "public reason of Europe, enlightened by the experience of all ages," happened to be that of his imperial majesty himself for the last ten years; for, notwithstanding that he had the "experience of all ages" before his eyes, he did in the year 1812 enter into a treaty with Spain, with the same Cortes, the same constitution, not one word of which had been changed up to the present hour. In that treaty his imperial majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, speaking of the then government, did use the very word by which he and his allies would themselves be designated—the word by the abuse of which they were known-he did call the Spanish government of the Cortes "a legitimate government"-that very government, of the constitution of which the Spaniards, with a precision not often found in such cases, had not changed one word; and God forbid they should change even a letter of it while they had the bayonet of a foreign soldier at their breast! He hoped, if it had faults —and some faults it might have that when the day and the hour arrived, the Spaniards themselves If they would liswould correct. ten to the ardent wish of their best

friends-of those who had marked their progress, and gloried in the strides they had made towards free-. dom and happiness—who would: not have them yield an iota to force, it would be to disarm the reasonable objections of their friends, but not give up any thing to the menaces of their ene-He would not go more mies. into detail at the present moment, for ample opportunities would occur-of discussing this subject; but he would ask, in the name of common sense, could any thing be more absurd, more inconsistent, than that Spain should now be repudiated as illegitimate by those, some of whom had, in treaties with her, described her government in its present shape by the very term "most legitimate government?" But not only was. the conduct of the allies inconsistent with the treaties of some among them with Spain; he would show that their principle of interference was wholly at variance with treaties recently made amongst themselves. He would prove that one of the fundamental principles of a late treaty was decidedly opposite to any discussion amongst them respecting the internal situation of that coun-By the 4th article of the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, it was laid down that a special congress should be held from time to time on the affairs of Europe, or, using the words and borrowing the hypocritical cant of their predecessors, the three powers who basely partitioned Poland-who, while they despoiled a helpless nation of its independence, kept preaching about the quiet of Europe, the integrity of its states, and the morality and happiness of its people -who talked daily about their desire

sire of calm repose, which, to use the words of a great writer, was the atmosphere in which despotism liked to breathe—following. as he had said the cant of their ancestors, the allies declared at Aix-la-Chapelle, that their object was to secure the tranquillity of Europe—that their fundamental principle would be, never to depart from a strict adherence to the law of nations: "faithful to these principles," (continued this halfsermon, half-romance, and half state paper,) "they would only study the happiness of their people and attend carefully to the interests of morality." Here, again, following the example of the autocratic Catherine, the partitioner of Poland, who, having wasted and divided it, province after province, sent in hordes of her barbarians. who, from the rising to the setting of the sun for one day, were engaged in shedding the blood of its innocent and unfortunate people; and not content with this work of indiscriminate slaughter, renewed the carnage, and continued it throughout the ensuing; and after this, a Te Deum was sung, to return thanks for her success over the That mild enemies of Poland. and gentle sovereign, immediately after these outrages upon humanity, issued a proclamation, in which she said-" The empress assures the Poles, and desires them to believe, that she possesses for them the solicitude of a tender mother, whose heart is filled with kindness for all her children." Who could, or who dare, doubt that she was what she so described herself, and who could, after the experience of the last year, dispute the purity of the intention of the allied powers towards Spain?

But after this declaration of the object of future congresses, came the stipulation, which he should like to see some German statist. some man versed in the manufactory of state-papers, compare with, and reconcile to, the recent notes got up at Verona, not unlikely by the very hands which had produced the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle. The stipulation was this: -- "Special congresses concerning the affairs of states not parties to this alliance, shall not take place, except" (and here be should like to know how Spain had brought herself within the exception)-" except in consequence of a formal invitation from such states." How would any German statist reconcile these contradictions? Here the interference in the internal affairs of Spain was not only not " by special invitation" from, but was in downright opposition to, the will of Spain. Thus were those holy allies opposed to their own principles; and by such was the attempt now made to crush the independence of a brave people. But it was not in the case of Spain alone that the consideration of these papers were important-they furnished natural grounds of fears to all independent governments; for he should be glad to learn what case it was (upon the doctrines new advanced) to which this principle of internal interference might not be extended-upon which the authority to comment, criticise, and dictate might not be assumed? The house was not aware of the latitude to which the interference of those armed legislators might be extended:—the revolt of the colonies was one alleged cause, the weakness of an administration another. Russia, forsooth, was anxious

anxious to see Ferdinand surrounded with the " most enlightened and most faithful of his subjects"by men, of course, who would be every way worthy of himself. that, according to these wise men of Verona, (and this was a consideration which should be looked to,) an inefficient administration would be a just ground of inter-The principle did not stop here: "ruinous loans," let that be marked, formed another ground, and " contributions unceasingly renewed." What were these but taxes which were called for year after year? All these were instances in which the principle of interference might apply to countries besides Spain; and perhaps (for it was not out of the wide range of this principle) agricultural distress would appear to the wisdom of those high powers as just a ground as any other. But, to complete all the reasons assigned to Spain, "on the 7th of July, blood was seen to flow in the palace of the king and a civil war raged throughout the Peninsula." It was true, blood had flowed, and a disposition to treason was excited in some quarters; but who was the cause? An ally. It was produced by those cordons of troops which were posted on the Spanish frontier. armed with gold and steel, and affording shelter and assistance to those in whose minds disuffection had been excited. Blood had been shed: but would it not be supposed by any person unacquainted with the fact, that this was blood shed in an attempt to dethrone Ferdipand, or an attempt to introduce some new and unheard-of form of government? But what was the fact? A few persons were killed who had mutinied against, the estublished government—the government which the Emperor Alexander himself had recognized as legitimate in 1812; and this he had now the audacity to call the "shedding of blood by Spaniards in the palace of the king." As well might he accuse the people, the parliament, and the crown of England, of " causing blood to flow in the palace of the king," on account of their ordering their sentinels to fire on every person whom they might find attempting to assassinate the sovereign, as accuse the Spaniards of such a crime, on account of the events which happened in July 1822. He should pass over the different phrases about "disorganized philosophy," " dreams of fallacious liberty, and " venerable and sacred rights." with which the Prussian note was crowded to repletion; and should pass on to the Russian note, which objected to the Spaniards their want of the "conservative principles of social order"-or, in other words, of despotic power, and to their not falling in with the scope of those grand truths, which, though they were ever in the mouths, were no where explained by any one of the three sovereigns. The Austrian note talked of the solid and venerable claims which the Spanish nation had upon the. rest of Europe; prayed it to adopt a better form of government than it had at present; and called upon it to reject a system which was at. once " powerful and paralyzed.". It would be disgusting to enter at any length into papers at once so odious, so iniquitous, and so abo-There was but one senminable. timent held regarding them out of the house, and he merely noticed them now to call forth a similar expression

expression of feeling from the Monstrous and insolent, house. and unjustifiable as all of them were, he considered that of Russia to be more monstrous, more insolent, and more unjustifiable than all the rest: Russia, a power that was only half European—that with all her colossal mass of physical strength was still quite as much Asiatic as she was European whose principles of action were completely despotic and oriental, and whose practice had, unfortunately, always been of the same barbarous and anti-European description. In all these precious documents there were, with a mighty number of general remarks, mixed up with a wondrous affectation of honest principles, — there were a great many words covering ideas that were not altogether clear and intelligible, or, if they happened to be so, only placing their own deformity in a more bideous and detestable light: still, though such was the case, the meaning of the whole—for argument there was none to be found from the beginning to the end of them—the meaning of the whole was as plain as plain could be: they spoke but one language to Europe and to Spain, and that language was this-" We have 100,000 hired mercenaries, and we will not stoop to reason with men whom we have determined to crush as slaves, or annihilate as freemen." He admired the parallel frankness with which this haughty language had been met by the Spanish government: the papers which it had sent forth were plain and laconic, and spoke this language: "We are millions of freemen, and will not stoop to reason with men who threaten to enslave us." They hurled back the

threat to the quarter from which it issued, caring little whether it was from the Goth, the Hun, or the Culmuck; with firmness they met the craft of the Bohemian, and with courage the savage ferocity of the Tartar. If they found leagued against them the tyrants by which the world was at present infested, they might console themselves with this reflection, that wherever there was an Englishman, either of the old world or of the new-wherever there was a Frenchman, with the exception of that little band which now swayed the destinies of France in opposition to the wishes and interests of its gallant and liberal population — a population which, after enduring the miseries which the revolution had entailed upon it. and after wading through the long and bloody wars into which that revolution had precipitated it, was entitled, if ever any population was, to a long enjoyment of the many blessings of peace and libertywherever there was an Englishman or true-born Frenchman-wherever there was a free heart or virtuous mind, there Spain bad a natural and an unalienable friend. For his own part, he could not but admire the mixture of firmness and forbearance which the government of Spain had exhibited. When the allied monarchs were pleased to adopt a system of interference with the internal policy of Spain-when they thought it fitting to descend to minute and paltry criticisms upon the whole course of its domestic government-when every sentence in their respective notes was a direct personal insult to every individual Spaniard - and when the most glaring attempts were made in their different manifestoes to excite rebellion in the country, and to

stir up one class of the community against the other,-it would not have surprised him if some allusion had been made in the replies of the Spanish government to the domestic policy of the allied sovereigns: or if some of the allegations which had been so lavishly cast upon it had been scornfully retorted upon those who had so falsely and so audaciously brought them forward. What would have been more natural for the Spanish government, than to have asked his Prussian majesty, who was so anxious for the welfare and good government of Spain, and who had shown himself so minute a critic on its laws and institutions, to remember the many vows and promises which he had made some years ago to his own free people? What would have been more natural than to have suggested to bim, that it would be more consistent with those promises to give his subjects a representative form of government, than to maintain at their cost, and almost to their utter ruin. a large standing army, for the purpose of ravaging the territories, or putting down the liberties of any neighbouring power? The government of Spain would have had a right to make this representation to his majesty of Prussia; for his majesty of Prussia owed much, very much, to its exertions: indeed, the gallant resistance which it made to the invasion of Bonaparte, formed a powerful diversion in favour of Prussia, when such a diversion was most necessary to its interests, ay, and to its very existence. Could any thing, he would also ask, have been more natural for the Spanish government, than to have asked the Emperor of Austria, whether he, who now pre-

tended to be so just, when the interests of Ferdinand were concerned, had always acted with equal justice towards the interests of others? Could any thing have been more natural than to have suggested to him, that before he was generous to Ferdinand, he ought to be just to George; and that he ought to return to him the whole, or, at any rate, a considerable part of the twenty millions he had borrowed of him in his day of distress—a sum which, remaining unpaid, wasted the resources of an ally of Spain, and tended mightily to cripple and mutilate her exertions? He wished likewise to know what could have been more natural-nay, if the doctrine of interference in the internal concerns of neighbouring nations were at all admitted,-what could have been more rightful, in a free people, than to have asked him how it happened, that his dungeons were filled with all that was noble, and accomplished, and virtuous, and patriotic in the Milanese?—than to have called on him to give an account of the ocean of blood which he had shed in his own dominions in the north of Italy? than to have demanded of him some explanation of that iron policy by which he has consigned men, women, and children, not to exile or to death, but to a merciless imprisonment for ten, twenty, and thirty years-nay, even for life, without their being able to ascertain in the remotest degree the crime for which they were punished? Even the Emperor Alexander himself, tender and sensitive as he was at the sight of blood flowing in the precincts of a royal palace—a sight so monstrous, that if his language could be credited,

it had never before been seen in the history of the world, might have been taught a lesson, which even he might not have found overpleasant in the recollection; for the Emperor Alexander, however pure he himself might be, and however innocent his agents, was nevertheless descended from fathers and mothers who had dethroned, confined, and slaughtered husbands, brothers, and children. God forbid that he should impute the acts of violence which had been committed on the persons of various members of the present dynasty of Russia to their fathers and their brothers! but it did happen somehow or other, and by some inexplicable fatality, that those relatives had invariably reaped the advantage of the atrocities committed, and had as invariably failed to bring the perpetrators of them to public justice. Under such circumstances, if he had had the hopour of being in the confidence of the imperial majesty of all the Russias, he should have been the last person in the world to have counselled his imperial master to touch upon so tender a topic—he should humbly have beeought him to think twice or thrice, nay, even a fourth and a fifth time, before be ventured to allude to so delicate a subject-he should, with all proper deference, have requested him to meddle with any other topic-he should have desired him to try every other point in the compasshe should have implored him to try what he could say about Turkey, or Greece, or even Minorca. on which he had of late been casting many an amorous glance, before he adopted the peculiar phrase of "blood flowing in the precincts of a royal palace;" and, at any rate, he should have advised him to slur it loosely over, instead of placing it, like an artful rhetorician, to form the principal point in his most effective climax. He found, likewise, in these self-same documents, another allusion, for which the Spanish government, had it been so inclined, might have read the boly alliance another severe lecture—he alluded to the glib manner in which the three potentates talked of an individual, who. let his failings or even his crimes be what they might, must always be considered as a great and a resplendent character, who, because he was now no longer either upon a throne or at liberty, or even in life, was described by them, not merely as an ambitious ruler-not merely as an arbitrary tyrant, but also as an upstart and an usurper. This was not the language which these three potentates had formerly used, nor was it the language which they were entitled to use, regarding this illustrious individual. Whatever epithets others might have a right to attach to his conduct, their mouths at least were stopped: they could have no right to call him usurper, for in many of his usurpations they had been will-The King of ing accomplices. Prussia followed his fortunes with the most shame-faced subserviency, after the thorough beating he received from him in the year 1807. No sooner had he recevered the upright attitude of a man, than he took the first opportunity which chance threw in his way to full upon his knees, and after much crouching and crawling in the dust, to beg from the blood-stained hand of Bonaparte no less a boon than possession of his Britannic majesty's foreign dominions, the kingdom

dom of Hanover. The Emperor Alexander, too, after he had also undergone the previous ceremony of a thorough beating, did not disdain to lick up the crumbs which fell from the mouth of his more successful rival: he did not disdain to take, rather than have nothing -rather than forego the Russian principle to get something on every occasion, either in Europe, or in Asia, and of late years they had even laid claim to naval dominion in America - rather than forego the Calmuck policy of always adding something to what was already acquired, he condescended to receive from the hand of Bonaparte a few square miles of territory, with an additional population of only two or three thousand serfs. The tender heart of the father. overflowing, as his imperial grandmother had phrased it, with the milk of human kindness for all his children, could not be content without receiving a farther addition to them; and therefore it was not surprising that on the very next occasion that presented itself, he was ready to seize, and actually did seize, from the same hands, a slice of the booty, large in the same proportion as his former one had been small. The Emperor of Austria, too, who had entered before the others into the race for plunder, and had continued in it till the very conclusion—he who, if not an accomplice with the jacobins of France in the spoliation of Venice. was at least the receiver of the stolen property; a case in which it had been well stated at the time in that house, that the receiver was quite as bad as the thief-that magnanimous prince, who, after an elmost encless alternation of submission and truckling at one time,

and vapouring and bullying at another, had finished by craving the honour of giving Bonaparte his favourite daughter in marriage, might have been told that the term usurper could not be fairly applied even by him to the individual upon whose beck his own fate and fortunes had so repeatedly depend-Extraordinary as it was, it was still no less true, that after the powerful genius of Bonaparte had fallen under the still more powerful restlessness of his disposition. -after his armies had perished under the severities of a northern winter, and the star of his destiny had waned under the superior influence of that of the allies,-after they had succeeded in the contest by the call they had made upon the energies of their people, and the gallant manner in which their people had answered that call. after they had come completely victorious from the struggle, in consequence of the aid they had received from the arms, skill, and gallantry of England, without which no storm could have overpowered, no popular enthusiasm could have overwhelmed him-it was extraordinary, he repeated, but still not the less true, that these very men should be the first to imitate that policy against which they had struggled so violently, and to carry it even still farther in all its most detestable points. He maintained that it was as he had asserted; for not even by his foulest slanderers had Bonaparte been ever accused of actions so atrocious as was the spoliation of Norway, the partition of Saxony, the transfer of Genua, and the cession of Ragusa. It was too much, after the allied sovereigns had committed deeds so wicked, and actions so iniquitous

as these-it was too much, after they had submitted to a long course of truckling and submission to Bonaparte, accompanied by every species of personal disgrace and degradation on their part-it was too much for them now to come forward and to calumniate his memory for transactions, in the benefit of which they had participated at the time, and the infamy of which they had since surpassed by their own conduct. He rejoiced that the Spaniards had only such men as these to contend with: he knew that there were fearful odds between battalions and principles; but it was some consolation to reflect, that their battalions were not aided by the character of their masters, and that all the weight of character was happily on the contrary side. It gave him, however, some pain to find that a monarch so enlightened as the King of France had shown himself on various occasions to be, should have yielded obedience, even for a time, to the arbitrary mandates of this tyrannic He trusted, however, that it would only prove a temporary aberration on his part from the sounder principles on which he had hitherto acted: he trusted that the men who appeared to have acquired his confidence only to abuse it, would soon be dismissed from it; or if not, that the voice of the country, whose interests they were ready to sacrifice, and whose rising liberties they seemed anxious to destroy, would compel them to parsue a more manly and more liberal policy. Indeed, the King of France had been persuaded by the parasites by whom he was at present surrounded, to go even beyond the principles of the holy alliance. He had been persuaded to tell the 1823.

world, that it was from the hands of a tyrant alone that a free people could hold a constitution. accomplished prince—and all Europe acknowledged him to be at once a most finished gentleman and most able scholar--could not but be aware that all the wise and good men of former times differed with him in opinion upon this point; and if he (Mr. Brougham) reminded him of a sentence which he had recently found in a recovered work, of one whose eloquence was only to be surpassed by his wisdom, and whose skill as a statesman was only to be rivalled by his observation as a philosopher-if he reminded him of an opinion of Cicero, in direct variance with the doctrines which he had recently promulgated, it was in the sincere hope that he would consider it with all the attention that was due to That great such high authority. man had said, " Non in ulla civitate, nisi in qua summa potestas populi est, ullum domicilium libertas habet.". He recommended to his most catholic majesty to reflect, not only on the wisdom of so great a philosopher, but also on the experience of so great a statesman. He recommended him to consider, that he was one of the greatest statesmen of the old world-that, like himself, he lived in times of great danger, and of great difficultythat he had to contend with the most formidable conspiracy which the life and liberty of social man had ever been exposed—that under such circumstances he had recourse only to the Roman constitution—that he threw himself on the good will of his patriotic countrymen - that he only put forth the vigour of bis own genius, and the vigour of the law, and that

he never thought of calling into his assistance the Allobroges, the Teutones, or the Scythians of his day; "and I now say," continued Mr. Brougham, "that if the King of France calls on either the modern Teutones or the modern Scythians to assist him in this unholy war, judgment will that moment go forth against him and his family, and the dynasty of Gaul will be changed at once and for ever." The learned gentleman then asked what were the grounds on which the necessity of this war was defended. It was said to be undertaken because an insurrection had broken out with success at Madrid. He denied this to be the fact. What was called an insurrection was an attempt to restore the lawful constitution of the country—a constitution which had been its established constitution till Ferdinand overthrew it in consequence of a mutiny in the army; and therefore, when a similar mutiny enabled the friends of liberty to recover what they had lest, it was an error in language to call such recovery by the name of insurrection, and an abuse of terms, which could only be intended to boodwink the reason or conciliate the prejudices of the honest part of mankind. Let the pretext, however, for the war be what it might, the real cause of it was not hard to conjecture. It was not from hatred to Spain or Portugal, considered simply as Spain and Portugal, that the allied sovereigns were for marching their hordes into the peninsulait was not against freedom on the Ebro, or freedom on the Mincio, that they were making war: no, it was against freedom in the abstract — it was against freedom wherever it was to be found-

it was against freedom by whatever men it was possessed-it was freedom by whatever against checks it was secured, and by whatever safeguards it was guaranteed. Freedom was the object of their most inveterate hate, and against freedom they were ready to employ every species both of fraud and force. They dreaded its instructions—they abhorred its spirit; all the benefits which it bas conferred upon mankind, all the monuments which have been raised in its honour, all the miracles which have been effected by its influence, they hated with the malignity of demons, for they were compelled to fear and tremble at the very sound of its name. was on this account that, disguise it as they might, they could feel no real friendship for the people of this country. As long as England remained the country that she was at present, as long as parliament formed a free and open tribunal to which the oppressed of all nations under heaven could appeal against their oppressors, however mighty and however exalted—and with all its abuses (and no man could lament them more feelingly than he did, because no man was more sensible of its advantages), and with all its imperfections (and no man could be more auxious to remove and amend them, because no man wished more heartily to make it worthy of the love and admiration of the country), it was still too free to please the taste of the continental despots,—so long would England be the object of their hatred and machinations, sometimes carried on in secret, sometimes carried on openly, but always carried on with the same unremitting vigour and activity.

**act**ivity. It was idle to suppose that these armed critics should be bounded in their views by any limits of time or of country. Could the house suppose, that, if there were any portion of territory in the neighbourhood of the Emperor Alexander which appeared peculiarly suited to his views. he would not soon be able to discover some fault or flaw in its political institutions requiring his intervention, supposing it even to be a part of the Turkish government? Nay, if his imperial majesty were met, with his consistory of tyrants and armed critics, he believed that it would be in vain for the Ulemah, with all his tribe of learned Muftis, to plead to him that their government was of the most sacred and venerable description,—that it had antiquity in its favour,—that it was in full possession of "the conservative principle of social order," -that it was "replete with grand truths,"-that it was "powerful and paralysed."—that it had never listened to "the fatal doctrines of a disorganized philosophy," and that it had never been visited by any such things as "dreams of fallacious liberty"-he believed that if the learned Ulemah were to argue the point just as if it was the holy Koran, still these "three gentlemen of Verona" would not turn away-in diagust, as he (Mr. Brougham) should do,-but would pry about for an avenue by which to enter into the territory in question, and if they could not find a way, would not be very scrupulous about making one; and the result, in one point of view, would be, that in three months from the time of deliberation the Emperor Alexander would be at Constan-

tinople, or at Minorca-for he had long shown a desire to have some western provinces; and that Austria and Prussia would be invited to look for an indemnity in any thing that England, or the King of England, might have to suit them. The principles on which this band of congregated despots had shown their readiness to act, were dangerous in the extreme, not only to free states for reasons which he had before explained, but also to the states over which the very members of this unboly junto pre-Resistance to them was a matter of duty, and the duty of this country was in consequence It behoved us, however, to take care that we did not rush blindly into a war. An appeal to arms ought to be the last alternative we should try, but still it ought never to be so foreign to our thoughts as to be conceived impossible, or so foreign from our counsels as to take us unprepared. Already, if there was any force in language, or any validity in public engagements, were we committed by the defensive treaties into which we bad entered. We were bound by various engagements to prevent Portugal from being overrum by a If Spain were to foreign enemy. be overrun by foreign invaders, what would be the situation of Portugal? Her frontiers on the side of Spain could scarcely be said to exist at present; there was no defence in them; they were a mere imaginary line, and had no existence except in the map of the geographer; her real frontiers were in the Pyrenees—her real defence was in their fastnesses; and whenever their passes were crossed, the same danger which threatened Spain would also threaten Portugal.

gal. If we were bound by the force of treaties, though we might not be bound to send an army of observation to watch the motions of the French army, we were at least bound to send a naval armament to Portugal, in order that we might have the earliest information of what was occurring there, and might be ready at any moment to give assistance to our ancient ally. Above all things, we ought to repeal without delay the foreign enlistment bill—a measure which, in his opinion, we ought never to have enacted. would not, however, look backwards to measures, on the propriety of which all of them might not agree; but he would look forward, in order to avoid all subject of vituperation, reserving his blame for the foreigners whose tyrannic conduct obliged this nation to hate them, and his co-operation for whatever faithful servant of the crown would, in the performance of his duty to his country, to freedom, and to the world, speak a language that was truly Britishpursue a policy that was truly free,—and look to free states as our best and most natural allies against all enemies whatsoever; quarrelling with none, whatsoever were the form of their government; keeping peace wherever we could, but not leaving ourselves unprepared for war; not afraid of the issue, but calmly resolved to brave it at all hazards; determined at the same time to support, amid every sacrifice, the honour and dignity of the crown, the independence of the country, and every principle that is considered most valuable and sacred among civilized nations.

Sir F. Burdett rose, to make

his acknowledgments to the honand learned gent. for a speech as able as ever he had heard delivered, or as he believed ever had been delivered within the walls of parliament. He rose for the purpose of saying of the hon. and learned gent. that which had been previously said of a great and worthy man-not however greater or worthier than the hon. and learned gentleman on the floor. "Nil non laudandum aut sensit aut dixit." He had received great pleasure from the manly and ingenuous speech of the honourable gentleman who had that day moved the address; and he trusted that the house would come to an unanimous vote upon it. clusion, he informed ministers, that if they acted upon the principles laid down by the hon. and learned gent. that evening, the despots of the continent would, in case of things coming to the worst, have to experience what they had not experienced for a number of years-he meant the opposition of an united parliament, and united people.

Mr. Peel expressed his satisfaction, that there was such a desire in the house to concur with the sentiments expressed in the speech addressed to it from the throne, and also with the sentiments which it was proposed to embody in the answer to be presented in return to the throne. After complimenting the mover and seconder of the address for the ability which they had displayed in bringing it forward, he proceeded to state, that as the hon. and learned gent. opposite, and also the hon. baronet who had followed him, had confined their observations to one point, he should

best

best consult the feelings of the bouse by postponing any remarks which he had to make upon other matters to a future opportunity, when they must necessarily come in their due time before its consideration. There had, however, been some observations made of such immense importance, that he felt that he should be guilty of a dereliction of his duty if he allowed them to pass entirely unnoticed. The greater part of the speech of the honourable and learned member for Winchelsea was on the policy, not of the country, but of the allied sovereigns. With regard to our own conduct, a time would come when a full explanation would be given of it, and he was sanguine enough to hope that the explanation of it would be satisfactory to all parties. His majesty had repeated his determination to adhere to the principles which this government had laid down first in 1793, and subsequently at a later period in 1821, respecting the right of one nation to interfere in the concerns of ano-He (Mr. Peel) conceived ther. these principles to be, that every state was sovereign and independeat, and was the only judge of modifications the reforms and which were necessary in its government; that, whatever course it might pursue in its internal concerns, of that course it was the sole and only judge; and that every other doctrine was as subvertive of national independence as the attempt of one individual to force upon another any specific line of conduct would be subversive of individual independence. The rights of states, however, like those of individuals, were subject to the interference of other states.

if the exercise of them tended to the general injury. That injury, however, ought not to be of an imaginary or speculative kindit ought to be of a nature clear to the feelings and palpable to the sight of every man; and of the necessity of making such an interference, each state, for the reasons he had before mentioned, ought to be the chief judge. With regard to the affairs of Spain, he could only observe, that as far as we were concerned, there was nothing in her institutions that could warrant our interference with them. He trusted. however, that Spain would admit some changes in what was called the Spanish constitution, because he believed that such changes would tend to the advancement of her best interests, and the promotion of her best rights. It was his opinion, that it was not only an act of justice, but also an act of duty, for one friendly state to represent to another the expediency of such changes; but in making that statement, he by no means intended to say that the grounds stated by the King of France for interfering in the affairs of Spain were such as warranted his interference; on the contrary,. he meant to say that he thought them not adequate. It was clear, that those who opposed the principle on which he interfered, could not approve of the mode of his interference. Still he thought that the house ought to cherish the hopes of peace, for no man could doubt what the real interest of England was under the present circumstances. If he spoke with reserve of the line of policy which England was likely to follow, it was because he still cherished a hope

hope that peace would be preserved; and if it was not, he still thought that every man might be certain, that every effort consistent with the independence of the country would be made for its preserwation. In the speech of the King of France, war was not stated to be certain. The expression was, " IF war be inevitable." The hopourable, and learned gentleman said that the condition attached to that IF rendered it so; for it was " unless Ferdinand VIL be free to give his people institutions." Now, it appeared to him that two meanings might be attributed to those expressions, and it was only fair to give France the benefit of them. They might mean that no institutions would be considered legitimate, unless they were derived from a king in the full possession of absolute power, at liberty to give, and absolutely giving them. with his own free will, to the meas of his subjects. Now, if this were the meaning of the words, they contained doctrines to which no Englishman could agree even for a moment. Personal freedom, freedom from restraint, was absolutely necessary on the part of the monarch. Whatever construction the terms of the speech of the King of France might bear, he (Mr. Peel) was anxious that it should not be misconstrued. As an Englishman he should undoubtedly say that the King of France had no sufficient authority to interfere; as a Spaniard, he should of course contend the same; but if he were a Frenchman, he could not at all tell in what view the question might present itself. He did not lay it down, that the principle adopted by France warranted ber interference as a foreign power, in the

internal affairs of Spain as an independent kingdom. Great Britain was, therefore, no party toany proceedings, direct or indirect. at Verona, that had this object. He was confident that the house would excuse him from enteringinto farther details, both on account of the absence of his right honourable friend who presided over this department of the affairs of the state, and because, while, as he had before said, there was a chance of maintaining peace: while there was a hope that the irritation unfortunately subsisting might be allayed, he should repent to the last moment of his life if he dropped a single word by which that chance could be lessened. The rooted conviction of his mind was, that it was the policy of Europe that peace, general peace, should be After the devastation preserved. of the late war, subjects and sovereigns ought to have an opportunity of directing their attention to internal affairs. A war must new be injurious to Europe at large. but especially to this country. Our great object ought to be at such a moment to maintain neutrality. Undoubtedly it was not for Great Britain to rejoice in the deterioration of other states. On the contrary, instead of viewing the growing prosperity of neighbouring kingdoma with jealousy or alarm, she had opened her eyes to a more liberal and just doctrine; also found that her interests were not incompatible with theirs, and that their increasing consumption gave to her an increasing demand. The most dignified position she could assume was that of a mediator, not between contending (for they were not yet contending), but between angry parties. The highest duty, she

she could discharge was to the utmost of her power to prevent the commencement of a new war, the termination of which no man could He could not avoid exforesce. pressing his regret that the honourable and learned gentleman (Mr. Brougham), in the heat of argument, had been betrayed into the use of too strong expressions with respect to powers, the allies of this country. As our allies (for such we might protest they were), against any principle of their policy; but, in stating our feelings regarding their personal character, caution ought to be observed, and certainly opinions ought not to be expressed which he (Mr. Peel) believed were without foundation. It ought not to be forgotten, that those whom the hon gent. had harangued with such sarcastic severity had joined with us by a common effort to repel a common danger. When, too, the hon. gent. spoke of that "great and resplen-dent character," Bonaparte, he (Mr. Peel) confessed that he had beard him with regret. Let him remember the exertions we had made with our allies against the atrocious violence of that indivi-When the hop. gent. was doal. speaking of Spain, when he was reprobating so strongly the interference of foreign powers, it was strange indeed that he should call that man . "a great and resplendent character," who, with regard to Spain, had notoriously been guilty of the basest duplicity. Had the hon. gentleman forgotten, while attempting to fasten on our allies all the crimes to which he had adverted, that the individual he had so mistakenly panegyrised had been guilty of every one of them? Had he forgotten that he had broken all

promises, dieregarded all treaties. murdered princes, and subjected independent states to the most unjust oppression? Above all, had he forgotten that this "great and resplendent character" had borne the most ferocious enmity towards this country, that had ultimately been the cause of his downfull? It was not for him (Mr. Peel) to follow the honourable gentleman through all the detail of his observations, but there was one remark to which he felt it his duty to advert. The hon, gent, had said that the whole object of the congress of Verona was to take into consideration the affairs of Spain. He begged leave to remind him. that other great questions had also occupied its attention,—the affairs of Italy, the slave trade, and, above all, the subsisting relations between Russia and Turkey. The recent conduct of Russia towards Turkey proved the injustice of the accusation respecting the spirit of aggression by which she was animated. Nothing could now be more manifest than that the policy of Russia of late had been marked by the greatest forbearance, and a desire rather to avoid than promote war. With respect to the interference of Austria in the affairs of Italy, a stipulation had been entered into for the withdrawing of her troops. In his opinion, the step taken by Austria in the first instance was clearly justifiable. . Whether it were or were not, the conduct of Great Britain, both in the cases of Naples and Spain, had been quite consistent. Her conduct had been regulated in both instances by the same principle. She had left it to Austria to determine on the propriety of interposition on the grounds

grounds she had assigned; and at least she had shown that her object was what she had stated, not territorial aggrandizement, but to prevent danger to her own domi-One purpose of the congress was to decide the time when the troops of Austria should be removed. The honourable gentleman had directed but little of his. attention to the internal affairs of this kingdom, no doubt reserving himself for some future occasion, when he would observe upon them more at large. He (Mr. Peel) was confident that the house had heard with the utmost satisfaction, both that there would be a reduction in the estimates for the service of the year, and that his majesty would be enabled, consistently with the maintenance of public credit, to recommend a further and a larger remission of taxes. Although, perhaps, rather irregular, he (Mr. Peel) would now give notice, that it was the intention of the chancellor of the exchequer, after his return as a member, to take the earliest opportunity of entering into a general exposition of the financial state of the country, in order to explain to the house those details of reduction and remission which he was satisfied would meet with the warmest approbation. It might not be anticipating too much to add, that a considerable part would apply to a diminution of the assessed taxes. He agreed that it was most desirable to afford relief to the agricultural interest, but he did not concur in the notion that that relief could be afforded by a remission of taxes. To the increasing prosperity of the manufacturing and commercial interests be looked for the most material improvement. When so much new activity had been given to commerce, when such an increase had taken place in the manufacturing districts, it was impossible that ere long agriculture should not feel the benefit of the change, and in the end recover from its depression. As it was the wish of the house to come to a vote, he should abstain from further explanations, trusting that perfect unanimity would prevail. He hoped that nothing had fallen from his hon, friends or from himself that was likely to provoke discussion or division, and that the house would return his majesty its combined thanks for the gracious promises held out in his speech. and assure the king that nothing should be wanting on its part to fulfil objects so desirable.

Sir J. Macintosk and Mr. Denman rose at the same time: the latter gave way. He assured the house that he would not stand long between the hon, gentleman (Mr. Denman) and the chair. It was not his intention at all adversely to meet and discuss the speech just delivered, as he applauded many of the just principles it contained, and commended the reserve which ministerial prudence dictated as to the application of future measures adapted to particular circum-As to the incidental stances. questions introduced by his hon. and learned friend (Mr. Brougham). he could not observe upon them without occupying a larger portion of time than was at present desirable. For his own part, he should, perhaps, have been contented to rest his opinion upon the excellent speech of the mover of the address; the principles it contained were expressed in terms such as neither be nor any man could improve. They had been further

further enforced by the eloquent, the irresistible speech of his honourable and learned friend (Mr. Brougham), who had adverted, he would not say with sarcastic severity, but with sarcastic justice, to the conduct and character of those who claimed a monopoly of all civil and religious principles, and who, without scruple, felt themselves at liberty to violate those principles whenever it suited their covenience. He should not now have risen, after all that had been so well said, had he not been influenced by the generous appeal of the gallant officer (Sir J. Yorke) to all members, to deliver their opinions on the state of Europe at the present critical and awful moment-at a moment when a war was about to be commenced subversive of the law of nations-subversive of all the rights of independent states—a war tending to involve all Europe in general hostility, and most especially affecting the security of his majesty's dominions. the honour of his crown, and the prosperity of his people - a war levelled at the glory, the liberty, and the security of Great Britain more than any other country of the world. On one point only he differed from his hon, and learned friend, for he (Sir J. Macintosh) denied that his most Christian majesty had carried his principle of foreign interference beyond his allies at the They had congress of Verona. all laid down what had been called a monarchical principle; from the beginning of their alliance, or rather of their conspiracy, they had declared that no institution could be good or ought to exist that did not flow from the will This principle, of the sovereign.

which was avowed, contained in itself a declaration of war against the character of this countryngainst all its best and noblest institutions: it was a libel upon all the generations of our ancestors, a slander upon the very title to the crown. It declared that those who secured and established British liberty were conspirators against the holy rights of kings; that George IV. himself was a usurper, and king William only the chief of a lawless banditti. It proclaimed as traitors those who had extorted Magna Charta from a tyrant, rendered the privileges of the house a mere assumption, and the occupation of the throne of these realms a violation of that great, just, profound, liberal, and enlightened monarchical principle which was to be applied to the affairs of Spain. He was sorry to hear such potentates called the allies of Great Britain: he could not conceive how any alliance could subsist between the government which issued the circular of 1821, or the framers of the royal speech of to-day, and those who held doctrines destructive of the hitherto acknowledged law of nations, and inconsistent with the rights of every state of civilized Europe. On this monarchical principle war was to be declared against Spain; and it was contended that three or four great states of Europe might combine to put down all amended institutions not flowing from the mere will of the sovereign-and when did improvements arise from such a source?-and to make war upon a free people, because it thought fit in the beight of its arrogance to frame its own constitution without first consulting the combined wisdom of the crowned heads of the north.

north. Let it be remembered too. that this war was to be declared without a pretence of danger to the dominions of any one of these great dietators of mankind. Governments adopting such a principle were, in point of fact and justice, at war with all independent states; they were the enemica of all who did not choose to submit to any yoke they thought fit to impose, and it then became only a question of policy and prudence with independent states what time they would choose for asserting their righte, in defiance of a band of haughty and overbearing conspirators against the liberties of the world. He was sorry not to see the honourable member for Bossiny in his place, who on a former occasion spoke upon this subject with a degree of force and seal which could not be forgotten. when he alluded to the overt acts of hostility by the sovereigns against the freedom of mankind at large, and compared them with the effects of the decree of the convention of 1792, which had been held the grand reason authorizing the resistance of other nations to the proceedings of France. The honourable gentleman had then applied this doctrine to the case of Naples. In reference to what had just been said, be (Sir J. Macintosh) must tell the right hon. gentleman that he was inconsistent in approving of the aggression of Austria in the case of Naples, and disapproving of the present interference of France in the affairs of Spain. It was a mistake to suppose that Austria had rested her justification on the ground of danger from viciouge. She had claimed the right of overrunning Naples as one of the lords paramount

-the mighty monarchs of Europe: because Austria saw Naples adopting institutions which were at variance with the system she chose her to possess. In proof of this, he referred the right honourable gentleman to the declaration of the sovereigns, who proclaimed in terms " the allied powers will strike rebellion wherever they can reach it:" and if they then confined themselves to Naples and Piedmont, it was only because they could reach no farther. It was not then their intention, as they professed, to march any troops into what, in the new Muscovite geography, was called "the western territory of Europe," those obscure semi-barbarous realms of France and Spain. It was not, however, through moderation, abstinence, or mercy, that they did not pour their hordes of Calmucs and Croats into those kingdoms to subdue and civilize them to northern notions of liberty and happiness. Nevertheless they adjourned this beneficent project for two years; they had allowed Spain and Portugal the privilege of being the last to be devoured, and resolved first to regulate according to their wills and pleasures the affairs of Italy. The King of France had pow adopted that principle, and on that principle he was about to carry on the war against Spain. He, like Austria, complained of no danger from juxtaposition; he did not condescend to pay the public the compliment of conjuring up some imaginary peril as an excuse for his aggression. According to his speech, the only object of his hostility was to enable the sovereign of Spain to give his people such institutions as he thought best for them. Here he begged to observe,

that the ultra-royalists of France of late had been very fond of reminding Europe of Louis XIV., and of saying, that the work which he had begun was now to be completed; in fact, that the object of the war, under the pretence of preserving social order, was to finish the subjugation of Spain, which that monarch had contemplated. He trusted that the house would hear with due reverence. and that Europe would mark with becoming attention, the dving words of William III., in his last speech from the throne, in which he exposed clearly the designs of Louis XIV. The significant threats of that ambitious king were at this moment revived by his restored successor, who was about to attempt to imitate the example of his ancestor, the oppressor of Europe, whose whole life had been devoted to the establishment of the principle of universal monarchy. The words of King William were delivered within two months of his death: they related to Spain and her relations with this country, and might be looked upon as almost prophetic of the situation in which Great Britain was now placed: they were these: " By the French king's placing his grandson on the throne of Spain, he is in a condition to oppress the rest of Europe, unless speedy and effectual measures be taken. Under this pretence he is become the real master of the whole Spanish monarchy; he has made it to be entirely depending on France, and disposes of it as of his own dominions, and by that means he has surrounded his neighbours in such a manner, that, though the name of peace may be said to continue, yet they are put to the expense and inconveniances

of war. This must affect England in the nearest and most sensible manner in respect to our trude, which will soon become precarious in all the variable branches, of it; in respect to our peace and safety at home, which we cannot hope should long continue; and in respect to that part which England ought to take in the preservation of the liberty of Europe." Thus appeared that king William placed above all other considerations and interests the glorious duty peculiarly incumbent upon this nation, of preserving the liberty of Europe. If he (Sir J. Macintoch) were asked for more, he would request the house to call to mind the unanimous address of both houses not long after the death of King William. Mr. Brougham whispered to Sir J. Macintosh.] He thanked his honourable friend for reminding him of what certainly was of importance, viz. that the dissolution of the parliament before that by which the address was voted was resolved upon in 1707, for the purpose of more clearly and effectually ascertaining the sentiments of the people of England as to the propriety of endeavouring to rescue Spain from France. The representatives therefore came directly fresh from their constituents, and they enabled the successor of King William to complete that alliance which might have effected the deliverance of Europe. Yet in our day the authority of Louis XIV., the common enemy and oppressor of Europe, was cited in favour of a successor of the house of Bourbon -restored for his moderation-replaced upon his throne on account of his pacific character, so well calculated to repress the military spirit

spirit and love of aggrandizement prevalent in his newly recovered kingdom. That successor seemed now resolved to make a perilous experiment to ascertain whether he could not accomplish by conquest what was yet incomplete, by indulging that military spirit and love of aggrandizement which be was reinstated only for the purpose of repressing. The unanimous address of both houses to which he had referred, contained the following expressions:-- "Your majesty is pleased to give us warning of the danger of being so far deluded as to depend again on the faith of treaties with an enemy, who has never yet had any other regard to them than as they served the purposes of his interest and ambition; and to inform us, that no peace can be lasting, safe, and honourable, till the Spanish monarchy be fixed in the house of Austria, and France reduced to such a degree that the balance of power in Europe be again restored. We humbly concur with your majesty in these your wise and noble sentiments. And we faithfully promise, that no dangers shall deter us, nor any artifices divert us, from doing all that is in our power to assist your majesty in carrying on the war, till you shall be enabled to procure such a peace for Europe." Did he say that this recommendation was now to be complied with to the letter? Certainly not: experience, from the peace of Utrecht to the family compact, was against it; but as soon as the family compact was concluded, the very evil foreseen by King William was revived, and for all military purposes Spain became a province to France. only temperament the case admitted—the only event that could possibly check the absolute power of France, through a prince of the house of Bourbon, was the establishment of a national legislature. The application of the word "legitimate" was not confined, as the Emperor of Russia and his coadjutors confined it, to sovereigns: for in 1812, the late Lord Londonderry stated it as a sine qua non, that the authority of Ferdinand VII. and of the Cortes, the legitimate government of Spain (Ferdinand being at that time a prisoner at Valencey, and all the powers of sovereignty being vested in the Cortes) should be acknowledged. All Europe excepting Bonaparte had acknowledged the legitimate government of the Cortes in 1812; and did not the events of 1820 restore it? Without dwelling longer on this point, he should content himself with stating, that for his own part he considered the meditated aggression by France against Spain and Portugal, in a geographical, military, national, and every other sense, upon the principle promulgated by the King of France, as the most unrighteous, unprovoked, wanton, lawless, and flagitious attack ever made by one state upon the liberties of another. He maintained that the people of Spain had shown the most magnanimous forbearance, and he prayed to God that they might continue a line of conduct that reflected so much honour on their national character: and he hoped that they would not be betrayed into any excesses, which would only serve the cause of their bitterest enemies. this subject he felt the strongest He looked upon the deinterest. liverance of Spain as the noblest monument of British valour, and he he saw that the object of this ungenerous invasion was to rob this country, if possible, of the laurels of Talavera, Vittoria, and Salamanca. It was an attempt on the part of France to steal from Great Britain the triumph which the one had gloriously gained and the other ignobly lost. It was an attack upon the honour and character of this country. He knew and was ever ready to acknowledge, that in the late war much was to be attributed to the invincible spirit and noble courage of Spaniards; but he knew also that no nation had contributed more than Great Britain to their happiness and independence. He felt strongly and he spoke strongly; he sought for no qualification of his language, no retreat from responsibility. He had embarked his powers and his heart in the cause of Spain: it was his most ardent hope that the people might triumph over the detestable combination against their liberties; but whatever might be the fate or fortune of their arms, he should never regret the part he had taken, the sentiments he expressed. Bitter indeed had would be his grief if he saw this fine, this brave, this generous nation compelled to submit to the haughty dictation of a conqueror; for in the history of the world there never was a holier struggle against a more degrading tyranny. On the one side was all that was dear to man, his best rights, his noblest privileges; on the other all that was unjust, detestable, and flagitious. In what he had said he believed that he had spoken the undivided sentiments of the whole people of Great Britain: from one end of the kingdom to the

-sympathy for Spain, disgust at her conspiring enemies. hon, and learned friend had already remarked, there was scarcely an enlightened individual in all Europe, out of the councils of these self-elected arbiters of the fate of millions, who did not join hand and heart in the resistance the Spaniards were prepared to make. His hon, and learned friend had already made a beautiful quotation from a fragment of a recently recovered treatise by Cicero, and be (Sir J. Macintosh) could refer the house to another passage, most admirably adapted to a situation like that he had been contemplating, in which Scipio Africanus was made to draw a happy distinction between the condition of a people qui sub lege est et sub justo domino, and of a people exposed to all the miseries of cruel tyranny. Yet such were the sentiments which an aristocratical writer of the Roman republic put into the mouth of the leader of the senatorial party during the sedition of the Gracchi, when passions were most inflamed, and life was exposed to the fury of the plebeian faction. He should conclude by repeating his regret at bearing powers entertaining the projects attributed to them, nay, which they had avowed and boasted, called the allies Having overrun of England. Naples and Piedmont, they were merciful enough to give a respite of two years to Spain; they might still, perhaps, give a further respite to Portugal, in order to lull that nation into security, and to deter them from aiding their ancient and near ally: but, by parity of reasoning, Portugal must be invaded because she had followed the exother all impartial men felt alike ample of England in obtaining a charter of their rights. All eyes must see that the three powers of the north, by withdrawing their ministers from Madrid, and by their declarations, had made themselves parties to the war, and were ready to pour their myriads into "the territory of Europe," western should the troops of Louis XVIII. be unsuccessful, or should discontents break out in the interior of France. It was high time, therefore, for all men to contemplate the importance of the crisis, and to be prepared to see a Muscovite army lining the shores of the continent from Amsterdam to Cadiz, as perhaps not the last result of Spanish

subjugation.

Mr. Denman said that nothing but a feeling of imperious duty could have induced him to intrude upon the patience of the house. If peace could be preserved, in God's name let it be preserved, but he trusted that the house would not shut its eyes to the real state of affairs: one course only might be left—a unanimous and a manly resistance. It was highly satisfactory to find that the King of Great Britain had not joined with the great disturbers of mankind; but he should have been more gratified if it had been stated also in the royal speech, that the plenipotentiary at Verona had entered the solemn protest of England against this most iniquitous project. did not wish to introduce topics that could excite irritation on either side, but he should like to know how the minister of Great Britain, at Verona, had looked when he was told that Spain was to be overrun, because the people had extorted from the sovereign free institutions that never would have been voluntarily bestowed.

Had any remonstrance been offered on the part of this country? He feared not. If it had been, the speech from the King of France, that had excited so much disgust, would probably never have been uttered. If such a remonstrance had falled of its effect, the truth could not be denied, that the disregard of it would amount to an act of aggression against England. He trusted that the allies of Great Britain, as they were termed, but the enemies of Spain, might yet be influenced by the unanimous sense of the British legislature. when they saw that to maintain its own rights it was ready to sacrifice not only peace, but life itself. True it was that the effects of the last war, and the distresses of the people, ought always to be duly considered; but let it go forth to the world that the British house of parliament, on the first day of its meeting, had declared that it was ready to go all lengths for the maintenance of the rights of their country, threatened in the person of its nearest and best ally. was not to be forgotten, that the language of the French speech had been used by the Emperor of Russia in 1820 :-- institutions for the people ought only to emanate from the crown; in other words, the crown was to allow its subjects only just as much liberty as suited its arbitrary degmas. The allied monarchs, therefore, at least deserved credit for consistency: they had overrun the fertile plains of Naples, and on the same principle they were preparing to tame down the haughty pride of Spain. remembered having said long since, though rebuked at the time, that if the war in Italy had lasted long enough for the Russian army to march

march down from the north, Russia would not have paused to make an attack on Spain. The allies had availed themselves of the earliest opportunity of invading Spain. and we could not shut our eyes to the fact that Great Britain was in principle at this moment involved in the struggle. The whole people of this country must feel that there was but one side to this question, and the least faltering at this momentous juncture might be fatal. The effect of any hesitation on our part might be most injurious to the interests of Spain. Let the house look narrowly, suspiciously, to the present proceeding. same question which the continental powers now put to Spain, they would next put to England. had been said again and again, that if the war did break out, England would, some how or other, be dragged into it. Then if the country was to go to war, let it go to war for some purpose. Let it not now shun the contest at the expense of sacrificing its allies, and afterwards strike for some trivial point of form—some breach of diplomatic arrangement or decorum. He did say again, if England must go to war, let ber choose her time. Let government speak out upon the present crisis, and be ready to back its honest remonstrance with all the power of this great and (in **mite** of the allies) free country; in such a cause there was no sacrifice which the country would not be prepared to make; and as the course he recommended was the just, so, eventually, it would be found to be the economical one. He was sorry to take up so much of the time of the house, and he was far from wishing to disturb the unanimity of feeling which prevailed; but he said these few words,

in giving his assent to the address. because he wished it to be understood that he should have assented to it far more cordially, if he had heard from the speech of some vigorous efforts made to preserve those rights and principles upon which the well-being of England rested. He thought that the rebuke his honourable and learned friend had received for calling a great man, now no more, a " great and resplendent character," might well have been spared, when the conduct of the present raling powers was looked at-men who, without the excuse of the warlike motives, if he might so express himself, which had seemed to impel that individual, outstepped his injustice upon a cold-blooded calculation of their strength. France recollect her own struggles for independence; let her recollect the declaration in which, at the commencement of those struggles, she had offered assistance to all nations willing to follow her example; and now see her in the situation of drawing the sword upon others for attempting the same work which she had accomplished herself. Let the house bear in mind that there was a very wide distinction between aiding or abetting an interference with a government, and interfering with an interference which had taken the course and proceeded to the length which the present change of system bad arrived at in Spain. The honourable and learned member sat down, regretting that he had not an opportunity of returning his thanks to the government for active efforts to avoid that crisis on which England was being driven by the upprincipled ambition of her allies.

The address was then put and carried.

carried, and a committee named; and the house adjourned at a quarter past eight o'clock.

LORD STANHOPE'S AMENDMENT.

Protest.

" Dissentient,

"1st. Because it is at all times the duty of parliament to examine and redress public grievances, and that duty is most urgent at the present moment, when the country is afflicted with severe and unexampled distress.

"2d. Because the nation has a right to expect that the causes of the present distress shall be immediately examined, shall be fully ascertained, and shall, as speedily

as possible, be removed.

" 3d. Because the investigation of the subject cannot be delayed without injury and injustice to those who suffer, and without the utmost danger to the country, of which the welfare must be destroyed, and of which the tranquillity may be disturbed, by a continuance of the present calamities.

"4th. Because this house ought also to examine 'the results that have arisen from altering the value of the currency,' as that measure has very considerably diminished the prices of all produce, and very considerably increased the burden of the taxes which have been imposed, and of the engagements which have been contracted.

"5th. Because the subject of which the immediate examination was proposed is of vital importance, as it affects directly all the owners and occupiers of land, and indirectly all the other interests of the country.

" Stanhope.

House of Commons, Feb. 5.—On the motion of Mr. Peel, the usual sessional orders were read and agreed to.

Mr. Marryat gave notice, that to-morrow week (the 13th inst.) he would move for papers, showing the service and stations on which his majesty's ships Carnation and Dotterel were employed on the 12th of August last.

Mr. Keith Douglas moved that there be laid before the house an account of all British plantation sugar imported into Great Britain and Ireland, from the 5th of January 1814, to the 5th of January 1823, distinguishing the annual amount exported, and that retained for home consumption, with the average price in each year. an account of British and Irish produce exported to the West Indies in the last five years, distinguishing the amount in each year. Likewise an account of the number of ships, with the tonnage, and the number of men employed in that trade in the same time, together with the amount of the duties paid on such produce in each year, for the last five years.—Ordered.

Mr. W. Whitmore gave notice, that on the 17th instant he would bring the corn laws under the con-

sideration of parliament.

On the motion of Mr. Curwen, there was ordered to be laid before the house an account of the quantity of Irish corp imported into England from January 1821 to January 1823, distinguishing the amount of each kind: also an account of the quantity of wheat, barley, and oats, actually sold in Mark-lane in the same time: likewise, an account of the number of cattle sold in Smithfield in the same period.

<sup>&</sup>quot; Tankerville.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Somerset."

Mr. Brougham presented a petition from the landowners of the parish of Penrith, in Cumberland, praying for an alteration in the highway act.

After a few words from Lord Lowther, Mr. Curnen, Mr. Littleton, and Mr. F. Lewis, the petition was ordered to lie on the table.

Lord A. Hamilton gave notice, that on Tuesday, the 11th of March, he would call the attention of the house to the state of the county representation in Scotland.

Dr. Phillimore moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the marriage act.—Leave given.

Mr. Childe appeared at the bar with the report of the committee appointed to draw up the address in answer to the speech from the throne.

On the question that it be read, Sir R. Wilson said it was not his intention, by rising on this occasion, to disturb the unanimity which prevailed in the house on the present aspect of foreign affairs: but he could not suffer this opportunity to pass without offering a few words. After the impression which the powerful address of his hon. and learned friend (Mr. Brougham) had produced on the house last night, it was far from his intention to trespass on their time for more than a few moments: but there was a word which had fallen from a right hon. gent. last night which he thought called for some remark. He had understood the right hon. gent. to mention the word "neutrality." Now be would anxiously wish to guard the house against being too confident that that would not be the course adopted by this country. A more disastrous course could not be pursued, as far as 1823.

Spain was concerned, nor one less honourable to the character of this country. If once that part were decided upon, what was there to prevent France from passing the Pyrenees and attempting to carry into effect her wicked, and, he would say, premeditated project? But if she found the whole coast from Bayonne to Dunkirk exposed to the operations of our fleets, she would then be more cautious how she ventured to advance with a chance of our being actively employed against her. He had no doubt that if the right hon, gent. had given a pledge of neutrality on the part of this country, he had done so in the expectation that it could be rendered valid. however, would be found to be a work of no little difficulty. should recollect that the approaching contest between France and Spain would not be for a boundary line: it was an attempt on the part of the former to put down the constitution—the free choice of the Spanish nation—that constitution which the allied sovereigns at Laybach had declared they would put down wherever they met it within their reach. But it was not Spain alone we had to look to. Portugal, too, must be expected to be brought into the contest. She also had a constitution which the Emperor Alexander would not recognize, and she would, no doubt, be anxious to de-But supposing that Portugal were to be so unwise, and he would even say, to be so base, as to desert Spain in her present exigency; supposing that by such desertion she were to add a force of 50,000 men to the invading armies-and, as a military man of some small experience, he asserted С

serted that the desertion of the cause of Spain by Portugal would be equivalent to the addition of 50,000 men to her invadersstill she would not rescue herself from the approach of those dangers by which her ally of Spain was at present menaced. France, reinforced by the successful termination of her efforts on behalf of the cause of fanaticism and tyranny in Spain, and assisted by the exasperation which the desertion of Portugal would have excited in every honest Spanish bosom, would soon, by her advances to the Portuguese frontier, render it necessary for the Portuguese government to call upon the British cabinet to fulfil the various pledges of assistance which it had offered to it. But he would ask, whether it was only external enemies that Portugal had to fear? Did not the right hon. gents. opposite knowand if they did not know, he could afford them positive information of the fact from documents in his possession—that a regency of Portugal was already organized in France, and that some of its agents had even arrived in England for the purpose of making proselytes here, if they by any means could. Supposing an army of the Faith to be raised in Portugal by the intrigues and machinations of this body, and to be backed by a French army of observation stationed on the frontiers, would England, in case of its advance into the interior, be able to throw a military force into the lines of Torres Vedras with any chance of success, or to maintain in the town of Lisbon the immense mass of population which would be cast upon it by such an event? True it was that England had been able

to support that population during the last war; but it ought to be recollected that the supplies for it were at that time drawn from the Brazils, and that no assistance could now be expected from such a He therefore contended quarter. that, both in a political, a military, and a financial point of view, this country was bound to interfere with spirit on the present occasion, especially as by so doing she would only spend thousands now, where she might be compelled to spend millions in future. He considered that nothing could be more honourable to parliament, and the nation in general, than the language which had been employed last night in condemnation of the policy of the allied sovereigns. The annals of history could not show a more wanton or a more wicked aggression upon the rights of nations than that which they at present contemplated. He said that the aggression was wanton, because every man, who considered that the military force of Spain previous to the 7th of July did not exceed 22,000 men, must perceive that its government could entertain no ideas of foreign conquest; and he said that it was wicked, because the constitution of Spain had been recognised, first of all by Russia, and subsequently by Prussia and Austria, as each of them broke away from the chains in which Bonaparte had bound them -chains, which they would never have been able to have dashed asunder, had it not been for the brave example and gallant exertions of that nation which they were now straining every nerve to reduce to servitude and vassalage. It was stated, however, as one ground of justification for the arm-

ed interference which it was now intended to make in the affairs of Spain, that the authors of the late revolution had stained their triumph with an unnecessary profusion of human blood. But he would ask how far this assertion was justified by fact? It was known that much blood had been shed in the massacre at Cadiz; but was it shed by the friends or the enemies of the revolution? There could be no doubt upon that point: it was an undisputed fact, that that massacre had been committed by the opponents of the present system; and yet, up to this day no vengeance had been taken upon the perpetrators of that scandalous outrage. The only persons who had yet been put to death for offences against the existing constitution, were the two assassins who had murdered an officer of the guards for discharging his duty a few days previous to the 7th of July; and it was well known that the convention with the mutinous guards, though made by an unauthorized officer, had been religiously observed even up to the present time. Another ground of justification was, that the Spanish government had exhibited a strong disposition to secularize the property of the church; but if this were a sufficient cause for armed interference not even the allied sovereigns themselves, nor the pope of Rome, nor our own government, which he trusted was very soon going to inquire into the state of church property in England, would be safe from it. A third ground was, that the present governors of Spain were the creators of anarchy. Of anarchy! Why, he was himself at Paris when General Quesada left it for

Bayonne, to which place it was avowed that he went for the express purpose of organizing a counter-revolution in Spain. the road thither his carriage broke down, and it became necessary to remove from it the boxes of gold which he had received from the Pavillon Marsun for the furtherance of his enterprise. Besides. it was notorious that in almost all the frontier towns of France bands had been formed, armed, and paid by French gold, with the intention of promoting the cause of rebellion, in the Spanish nation. In Bayonne the bulletins of the army of the Faith were regularly drawn up. and issued to the public, and a bank was also instituted for the ransom of such heroes in the army of the Faith as happened to fall into the clutches of the constitutional party. All this was done, too, at a time when the Duke de Montmorency was complaining that nothing but the most entire bad faith could accuse the cordon sanitaire of any hostile designs on the liberties of Spain. After condemning in strong terms the insolent language of the three circular. notes, and particularly that of the Russian note, the gallant member expressed his conviction, that the object of the French government in undertaking a war against the Spanish nation was not so much to put down the rising liberties of that country, as to overthrow the charter of its own, and to restore the national domains to their original proprietors—a catastrophe. which could never be produced without the assistance of an Austrian and Russian army, even supposing it could be produced with them. That such was the object of the French government had been c 2

been openly avowed by Count de Jouffroy in his letter to the Duke de Montmorency; and that it was their further object to put down all freedom of opinion, and all liberty of discussion, had been made further evident by a declaration of one of their pensioned writers, that it was almost a lamentable circumstance that the Christian religion had been given to the world, inasmuch as in superseding the superstitions of Paganism, it had tended materially to unsettle the minds and opinions of men. He therefore contended, that as such were the intentions of the despots of the continent, it was the duty of the British government to come manfully forward in behalf of the liberties of the world; for they might depend upon it, that should war be the result, the people of England would gladly support them in it, if they presented themselves to their notice in the honourable and dignified character of the champions of European liberty.

Mr. Curwen said, that agreeing as he did for the most part in the address, he should postpone any observations which he had to make upon it to a future opportunity.

Colonel Davies expressed his concurrence in the noble sentiments of independence which had been so generally expressed by the house in the discussion of the former even-There was one point, however, in which he differed from the gallant officer who had addressed them with so much spirit at an early period of the evening. That gallant officer had expressed a hope that we should preserve a strict neutrality in case of a war breaking out between France and Spain. For his own part, he could not conceive how such a neutrality could

be preserved by this country, consistently with its honour and inde-He should say, that if pendence. France sent a single soldier across the Bidassoa, or fired a single cannon on the other side of the Pyrenees, we ought to consider it as a declaration of war against England. He could not help thinking that, mad, blind, and besotted as the courtiers were by whom the King of France was at present surrounded-men who, amid the calamities of the last twenty-five years, had evidently learned nothing, and forgotten nothing, and who now appeared as if they had just awakened from a long lethargy with all their old ideas and prejudices in full vigour, whilst the rest of the world had been rapidly advancing in virtue and in knowledge—he could not help thinking. that even these men, if they were told that we should consider any aggression of theirs upon Spain as a declaration of war against ourselves, would pause a little before they ventured to make it. If the people of France were made to see that the destruction of liberty in Spain could only be considered as a prelude to the destruction of liberty among themselves, and if in addition they were made to see that a war with England must affect in a grievous degree all the various interests of society among them, he thought that the impression made upon them could not fail to produce some impression. also, even upon those in whose hands their destinies were at present confided. The hon. gentleman concluded by expressing his abhorrence of the tyrannical sentiments which the allied sovereigns had embodied in the notes which they had respectively addressed to their different

different ministers at the court of Spain.

Mr. C. H. Hutchinson, though he agreed with every syllable in the address, contended that stronger language ought to have been put into the King's mouth in the present critical situation of affairs. Such language would have inspired terror into the congregated despots of the continent, and would have shown the sons of freedom that the population of this country, from the prince down to the peasant, was unanimously determined to support them, and to thwart the designs of their oppressors. whole continent was at present looking up to the conduct of this country; and such a declaration from so high a quarter would have excited it to a successful opposition against the tyrants who were now oppressing it. He should certainly lament the return of war as a great national calamity: indeed, there was nothing which he could lament more, except the success of the diabolical principles which the sovereigns of the holy alliance had lately dared to promulgate to the nations of the world. He hoped that the secretary of state, when he resumed his seat in the house, would be able to show that not only had this country not joined at Verona in the unprincipled aggression which it was there determined to make upon Spain, but that it had actually opposed itself to it with all its might and all its influence. He cordially agreed in every sentiment which his honourable and learned friend, the member for Winchelsea, had last night expressed respecting the iniquitous and odious notes of the three great continental powers. He could wish that that speech, powerful and eloquent as it was, might always accompany the address of this house. because the strength and vigour of the one would atone for what he must denominate the milk-andwatery nature of the other. should like to know the meaning of a paragraph which he found in the King's speech, stating that his Majesty was anxious " that in the East peace should be preserved." Did his Majesty mean to say, that the Emperor of Russia was not to make any attempt upon the liberties of Greece, and that the Turk was to be permitted to continue his massacres of men, women, and children, in that devoted country, until the destruction of the liberties of Spain gave the northern Cæsar an opportunity of marching his barbarous hordes into its various He sincerely hoped provinces? that this was not the meaning of It would, however, have been well if the ministers of the crown had put into the mouth of his Majesty language more clear and explicit than that which they had used; it would have been satisfactory, if he had told his parliament that instead of assisting the Turks, as had been done last year. it was his intention not to oppose, but to foster the rising independence of Greece. The honourable member, after noticing several other points in the speech from the throne, proceeded to advert to that part of it in which the country was informed that a considerable diminution had taken place in the distresses of Ireland. He was happy to bear his testimony to that most important and gratifying statement; he was happy to state that relief had been administered to the distresses of his countrymen —thanks to the magnificent exertions

tions and princely contributions of the people of England. He rejoiced to hear the King advising his parliament to take into consideration the state of Ireland, and to do, at last, something to improve the habits and condition of its inhabitants. He did not conceive it to be at all inopportune, when a war was expected which promised to be more terrible in its results than any which had preceded it, to call the attention of ministers most particularly to that part of the speech which related to the necessity of devising some measures for the better internal regulation of Ireland. He trusted that they would take no measures individually, much less collectively, to impede the gracious recommendation of his Majesty. An improvement in the habits and condition of the people of Ireland could not be effected by words alone, however well placed or conciliatory they might be: it must be the result of measures, and of great and salutary measures too. Amongst those measures, he should reckon a fair and equitable commutation of tithes, on which subject he was happy to find an honourable friend of his had already given notice of a motion, and the admission of the catholic part of the population into the enjoyment of those privileges from which they were debarred by the constitution of the country as it existed at present. Above all things, it was necessary that all classes and parties of lrishmen should make up their minds to forget and to forgive—he meant to forget the various fends and passions by which they had been led astray from right reason in times past, and to forgive the mutual injuries which they had in-. . .

flicted and received during the period they had been animated by them. In conclusion, he stated his readiness to support the address, though he could not help repeating his wish that it had been couched in somewhat stronger and more animated language.

A member expressed a hope that as the opinion of the public was in general governed by what occurred in that house, ministers would give some more direct and satisfactory explanation of the state of the different parties on the continent, than they had yet thought fitting to afford to the house.

The address was then read by the clerk, and agreed to. It was afterwards ordered to be presented to his Majesty by such members of the house as were also members of his most honourable privy council.

The house then adjourned.

House of Lords, Feb. 7.—The Earl of Abingdon presented a petition from the traders and other inhabitants of the borough of Abingdon, praying for a revision of the insolvent debtors' bill.

The Earl of Shaftesbury presented a similar petition from the merchants of the city of Lincols.—Both these petitions were ordered to lie upon the table.

The Earl of Shaftesbury presented a petition from the deam and chapter of Lichfield, praying for the repeal of the new marriage act. The petition stated, that since the passing of the act, no marriage, except by licence, had taken place in any of the seventy-two parishes which the diocess contained.—Ordered to lie on the table.

A person from the Bank of England land presented copies of all the applications made by the first lord of the Treasury to the governor and company of the Bank of England, for advances of money, from the 5th of January 1822, to the 5th of January 1823.

A person from the Treasury presented an account of the sums redeemed during the last year by the commissioners for the redemption of the national debt; also the fourth report of the commissioners of inquiry into the amount of the unfunded debt of Great Britain; and an account of the number of vessels employed in the herring and whale fisheries.

The Marquis of Conyngham reported that the address of their lordships having been presented to the King, his Majesty was graciously pleased to express his satisfaction thereat, and his firm reliance on the zeal of their lordships for promoting the interests of all classes of his subjects.

The answer was ordered to be entered on the journals.

Lord Ellenborough entered into a detail of the bill which he was about to offer, and said he should be ready to bring it forward on Monday next.

Lord Redesdale objected in part to some of the clauses as detailed by lord Ellenborough.

The Lord Chapcellor observed, that it was unnecessary to remind the house that he had strongly opposed the act which was passed last session, and he did not hesitate to say that there was no objection which he had urged against that act which he would not repeat, should the opportunity for doing so again arise. Their lordships, however, having adopted the measure in opposition to his opinion,

. . . . .

he considered it his duty to bow with submission to their decision. The act had excited great clamour, perhaps more than it ought; but it was evident that such a measure could not fail to call forth a strong expression of discontent. The state of public business, and the claims which it had upon his attention, had prevented him from taking so active a part as he wished in endeavouring to amend the act of last session. He was desirous, however, to bestow all the attention in his power upon the bill now about to be introduced; and all that he asked for was, that their lordships might be allowed sufficient time to consider deliberately every part of it. It would be necessary for their lordships to assist each other as well as they could; and he hoped that they might, under those circumstances, frame a bill which would secure to the country great religious and moral advantages.

Lord Ellenborough rose to express the satisfaction which he felt at hearing that the bill would have the full benefit of the noble and learned lord's knowledge and talents. He could assure the noble and learned lord that he did not desire to hurry the measure through the house; but that opportunity would be afforded for its full consideration.

Leave was then given to Lord Ellenborough to bring in his bill on Monday next, to which day the house adjourned.

House of Commons, Feb. 7.—The Speaker counted the house at four o'clock; when, there not being forty members present, he declared it adjourned to the following day. There were thirty-six members in attendance.

House

House of Commons, Feb. 8.—At four o'clock the Speaker proceeded to count the house, and there being only six members present, an adjournment took place till Monday.

House of Lords, Feb. 10.—Lord Grantley took the oaths and his

seat.

The Earl of Coventry presented a petition from the inhabitants of the city of Worcester, praying a revision of the insolvent debtors' act.—Ordered to be laid on the table.

The Earl of Shaftesbury said, in the absence of a noble friend of his, who was unable to attend, he begged leave to move, that the bill for amending the marriage act be read a first time.

The bill was accordingly read a first time, and ordered to be printed; after which the house adjourned.

House of Commons, Feb. 10.— Mr. Fremuntle moved for a new writ for the city of Winchester, in the room of James Henry Leigh, esq. who had accepted the office of steward of one of his Majesty's Chiltern hundreds.

Mr. Littleton presented a petition from the manufacturers and others in the potteries of Staffordshire, praying that a court of requests for the recovery of small debts may be established in the potteries.—Laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

Admiral Sotheron presented two petitions,—one from the very reverend the vicar-general and clergy of the peculiar jurisdiction of Southwell, in the county of Nottingham; and another from the chapter of the collegiate church of the Blessed Mary, in the same place—complaining of the loss which they had sustained by that part of the new marriage act by which they

were deprived of the power of granting licences, and praying that the same may be repealed.—Laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Curteis presented a similar petition from the reverend Thomas Bootle, dean of Battle, in the county of Sussex.

The petition was then laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. R. Smith presented a petition from the merchants and tradesmen of the city of Lincoln, praying for the repeal of the insolvent debtors' act, and, in doing so, condemned, in the strongest terms, the various advantages which it conferred upon the dishonest and fraudulent debtors.

Mr. Hurst contended that in many cases the creditor was as much to blame for giving credit to improper persons, as the debtor was who requested and received it. He thought that the present act did not deserve all that condemnation which the hon, gentleman had so unreservedly cast upon it.

Mr. J. Williams asserted, his hon. friend and colleague was fully borne out by facts in all the strong language which he had used regarding this injudicious and improvident measure.

Mr. Littleton thought that some alterations in this bill were absolutely necessary. Amongst others, he thought that this alteration would be most effective—to proportion the length of the imprisonment to the amount of the debts contracted and the assets to meet them possessed by the insolvent.

After a few remarks on the impolicy of allowing the law on this subject to stand in its present

state,

state, made by Mr. T. Wilson and Mr. Alderman Wood, the petition was laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Littleton presented two petitions,—one from the very reverend the dean and chapter of the cathedral church of Lichfield, and another from Sir John Wrottesley, the possessor of the Royal Peculiar of Peyton—complaining that their ancient rights of granting licences had been taken away from them by the new marriage act, and praying that some compensation might be granted them for the loss they had sustained. — Ordered to be printed.

Mr. Wallace gave notice, that he would upon an early day move for the revival of the committee on

foreign trade.

Sir H. Parnell presented a petition from the grand jury of Queen's County, Ireland, praying for a commutation of tithes. He had read with the greatest pleasure that paragraph of his Majesty's speech, in which he recommended to the consideration of parliament such measures for the internal regulation of Ireland as were calculated to promote and secure its tranquillity, and to improve the habits and condition of its inhabitants. Now he (Sir H. Parnell) knew of no measure that was more likely to put an end to the unfortunate disturbances which had so long distracted his ill-fated country, and had so long prevented any amelioration from taking place in its condition, than such a measure as the present petitioners prayed He trusted that the gracious recommendation of his Majesty referred particularly to this subject; and he was the more inclined

to think that it did, as he had been informed that the noble marquis who was at the head of the Irish government intended to propose to parliament some specific plan for effecting an alteration in the tithe system of Ireland. If the noble marquis should lay such a plan upon their table, and that plan should fortunately prove successful, he would confer one of the greatest benefits upon Ireland which that country could possibly receive. During the few months which the noble marquis had been at the bead of the Irish government, he had effected a great and favourable change in the condition of the country; and the measures which he had adopted for the better regulation of the police would, he had little doubt, be productive of still more beneficial consequences. hoped that his honourable friend (Mr. Hume) would postpone the motion of which he had given notice, until that which was to be submitted from the Irish government had been introduced to the house, and received its full and mature consideration.

Colonel Trench said, that as he was connected with the county from which the petition came, he felt it his duty to remark that he fully and cordially concurred inthe prayer of the petitioners. thought that if their prayer were granted, much would be done to secure the tranquillity and promote the happiness of Ireland. The present system of church government in that country was as injurious and detrimental to the protestant church, as it was hostile and oppressive to the catholic part of the community; and it was principally with a view of putting

an end to such a system of things that he joined in the prayer of the present petition.

The petition was then read. On the question that it be laid on the

table.

Mr. V. Fitzgerald took the opportunity of informing the house that he fully concurred in every syllable which had been said on this subject by the two honourable members who had preceded him. He was desirous of making this statement to the house, because he had not been in the country when this subject had undergone discussion in the last session, and because the county which he had the honour of representing had resolved upon presenting to parliament a similar petition to that which was Though he conthen before it. ceived the measure which had been passed last session for the better regulation of the tithe system to be completely inefficient. usaless, and impracticable, he was of opinion that the discussions which it had occasioned both in and out of that house had been of the greatest service to the commu-

Mr. Goulburn felt that it was quite unnecessary for him to enter at present into any disclosure of the intentions of the Irish government on this great and momentous question, Indeed, he was convinced that the house would feel such discipeure to be premuture, and would not, therefore, demand it of him. He must now repeat—what he had had occasion to say more than once in the last session—that the government of Ireland had, from the first moment of its arrival in that country. been sedulously anxious to discover some just mode of removing the

evils which arose from the present system of collecting tithes. In the last session he had brought. forward a measure for that purpose, the result of the short deliberation which he had then been enabled to give to the subject; and though it might not have been as efficient as he could have wished, still he could not join in condemning it as the useless or im-, practicable measure which his hon. friend had described it to be. The subject had since that period been again taken into the consideration of the Irish government, and he trusted that when at a fitting season he should again submit it to. the notice of the house, it would be found not altogether unworthy of its support and approbation.

Mr. S. Rice asserted that a more inefficient measure than that of last session had never been passed by any legislature; and, as a proof of his assertion, stated that there was not one individual throughout the whole country of Ireland that had attempted to take advantage of it. As the declarations of the right hon. secretary were now of the same vague nature that they were last session, he trusted that his hon. friend. would on no consideration postpone the motion of which he had given notice.

Mr. Peel thought that the hongentleman had no just reason to complain of the vague declarations made by his right hon, friend (Mr. Goulburn); he (Mr. Goulburn) had stated that it was his intention to submit to the house a measure for the commutation of tithes in Ireland; and he (Mr. Peel) would add, that that measure would be brought forward at a period sufficiently early to enable

the

the hon member for Aberdeen to obtain the fullest discussion of his motion upon the same subject. It was certainly most desirable that that motion should be postponed until at least the plan of the Irish government had been introduced.

Mr. Hume saw no reason why he should give way upon this subject, especially after the long delays on the part of ministers. They, or their friends, had been twenty-five years in office, during which time this crying abuse existed, and they had done nothing to this moment to remedy the admitted evil. He begged to ask the right hon, secretary of state, why, when he was secretary of Ireland, he had brought no proposition on this parliament? subject before was this delay of remedies that had rendered it at length necessary to keep down the people of Ireland by military establishments: It was now understood that the clergy of Ireland, after a long and strong opposition, had consented to commute their tithes for an acreable assessment. Whateverofficial reserve the right hon. gent. (Mr. Goulburn) thought fit to keep, he (Mr. Hume) had not the slightest objection to mention the general nature of his propositions. He should first contend that the church property in Ireland (meaning that in possession of the deans and chapters and bishops) was altogether too large for the purpose for which it was intended: next, that there should be no over-paid absentees of 1000%, 2000L, or 3000L a year, and starved curates of 50L 60L and 70L a year, but that the acting ciergyman should be allowed enough for his maintenance as a gentleman. He was opposed to the payment of any elergymen who were not resident, and he ahould call upon the house to declare this simple proposition whether the church property was not set aside by the state for the maintenance of religion, and whether it was not in the power of parliament to appropriate it in the way most conducive to the interest of religion? He should not consant to postpone the motion of which he had given notice.

Mr. Peel added, that probably the present week would not elapse without a specific day being fixed for the introduction of the mea-

sure.

Mr. S. Rice wished to receive a direct pledge that the measure to be proposed would be a commutation.

Mr. Goulburn thought that the hon. gentleman had been quite aware of the principle on which his measure, would proceed; it was for a composition and commutation of tithes.

Mr. V. Fitzgerald urged that it ought to precede the motion of the hon. member for Aberdeen.

The petition was laid on the table, and it was ordered that it be printed.

A new writ was ordered for the county of Fermanagh, in the room of Sir L. Cole, appointed governor of the Mauritius.

Mr. Peel brought up the answer of his Majesty to the address of the commons.

On the motion of Mr. Grenfell, accounts were ordered of the weekly amount of the bank notes and bank post-bills in circulation, from the 8d of July last to the latest period: of the quantity of copper and tim expersed

from .

from London and Liverpool from the 5th of January, 1822, to the 5th of January, 1823.

Mr. Goulburn gave notice of a motion for the reduction of the

staff of the Irish army.

Lord Hotham gave notice, that previous to the discussion of the Catholic claims, whenever the debate might take place, he should move that the house be called over.

An account was ordered of the quantity of grain, &c. remaining in the warehouses on the 5th of

January, 1823.

Mr. Maberly rose to move for certain papers necessary for the discussion of the question of which he had given notice. He adverted to certain returns upon the table, showing the property of the kingdom in 1813 to amount to 157 millions, 40 millions of which belonged to the landed proprietors; and noticed the immense reduction that had: since taken place, especially in the property of the owners and occupiers of the soil; the latter being absolutely annihilated. was prepared to contend for the repeal of the whole of the assessed taxes, and to argue particularly, that the house and window tax was very unfairly borne, as in many instances it amounted to 40 per cent. It was in those cases nothing but a partial property-tax. He hoped that in the present state of the country, honourable gentlemen would not be satisfied with the minister's proposal to repeal only two or three millions of taxes. He then moved for various returns, and among them an account of the number of houses in the United Kingdom assessed with the duty on houses, from the 5th of April, 1821, to the 5th of April, 1822, distinguishing houses excepted; an account of the number of windows assessed, with the duty for the same period; an account of the net assessment to the propertytax in 1815, distinguishing the classes.

Mr. Grenfell begged to ask his honourable friend whether he contemplated, as a part of his plan of reduction of the assessed taxes, the re-enactment of the tax upon property or income?

Mr. Maberly replied that he did not. His relief would be general, and without in any respect affect-

ing public credit.

Mr. Luskington said, that the accounts required should be made out without more delay than was unavoidable.

Mr. Hume, in rising to move that a series of financial papers, which had been laid on the table of the house, should be printed, was anxious to preface his motion with a few observations. title of one of these papers was, " An account of all sums of money paid over to the commissioners for the reduction of the national debt. for the year ending the 5th of January, 1823;" and from that document it appeared, that 15,853,000%. had been so paid over. The system was, however, a complete fal-It turned out to be a mere transfer-paying with one hand, and at the same moment a borrowing with the other, without liquidating any portion of the amount of debt. It was as perfect a farce as was ever played off by any juggler. As the country was about to have a new chancellor of the exchequer, it was to be hoped that with the old one, this preposterous farce would die. they must have a sinking fund, let it be a real one, clearly and plainly set forth; and not a mere nominal fund, which could only answer the purposes of delusion. The honmember concluded by moving that the papers to which he had alluded be printed.

Mr. P. Grenfell entirely concurred with his hon. friend as to the folly of that system which induced government to lay before the house and the country this most idle and unsatisfactory account. He thought, however, that his honourable friend ought, in justice to the late chancellor of the exchequer, to have noticed a passage in a report laid before the house, in which that right hon. gentleman pledged himself, that such an undertaking as that to which his hon, friend had alluded would be set on foot by government; that the whole of that system which his hon, friend reprobated (and in which reprobation he entirely concurred) would be re-modelled; and that in future the account of the sinking-fund should consist only of the surplus of income over expenditure.

Mr. Lushington said, one of the earliest objects of government would be to bring the subject of the sinking fund under the consideration of the house, for the purpose of simplifying the system and rendering it more intelligible. It was the anxious desire of government, that there should be laid before the house a full and ample account, pointing out the exact amount of the sinking fund.

The Lord Mayor deprecated any interference with the sinking fund system, from which the country had derived so much benefit; and it was exceedingly strange that

any individual should get up for the purpose of destroying a system which, thirty years ago, had been recommended and supported men famous for their wisdom and The system had been talents. adopted by America, by France, by Russia, and Prussia: in short, it had been acted on wherever there was any thing like a representative government. He trusted, however anxious gentlemen might be to reduce the taxeshowever desirous they might be to remit a part of the assessed taxes -that still there was a spirit in that house which would, he was going to say, compel government to keep faith with the public creditor.

Mr. Luskington said the honourable member had given an importance to the subject which it did not deserve.

Mr. Maberly joined in the condemnation of the system. A more deceitful tricking system could not be imagined. If government paid off the money which the bank had lent them on the quarter's revenue, there would not remain a single shilling of sinking fund.—The papers were then ordered to be printed.

Mr. Wilmot wished that the hon. gent. opposite (Mr. Hume) would defer his motion for a few days with respect to colonial accounts. He (Mr. Wilmot) wished to have better information as to the nature of the hon. gentleman's intention than was to be derived from the notice on the minutes of the house.

Mr. Hume acquiesced.

Mr. Lushington moved for an abstract of the net revenue of England from the 5th of January

1822.

1822, to the 5th of January, 1823: the like documents as to Scotland and as to Ireland.

Mr. Whitmore moved for a return of the quantity of grain sold in the market of Dublin for the last ten years, distinguishing each

year.

Lord John Russell begged to know whether it was true as reported, that his Majesty meant to make a gift of the late King's library to the public. If such were the case, it was a most liberal proceeding, well calculated strengthen the attachment of the people to the House of Brunswick; and he wished that the high utility of the present might be preserved by its being placed in such a situation as should make it generally accessible.

Mr. Peel said that the report was well founded. No particular arrangement as to the disposal of the gift had yet been made; but he doubted not that, in the detail hereafter to be settled, the object aimed at by the noble lord would be duly attended to.

Mr. Wilmot moved for an abstract of the amount of fines and quit-rents paid, and for a great number of other papers connected with the revenue and administra-

tion of Trinidad.

A member moved for a return of the amount of trade between England and China, a second return as to the trade with the East. and a third as to that of the West Indies.

The house then adjourned.

House of Lords, Feb. 11.-Viscount Granville presented a petifrom the inhabitants Wolverhampton, complaining of the operation of the insolvent debtors' act.

Lord Ellenborough gave notice, that he should on Monday next move the second reading of the marriage act amendment bill.

The Earl of Shaftesbury moved that the house should adjourn till the 13th instant.-Adjourned till Thursday.

House of Commons, Feb. 11 .--A new writ was moved for the borough of Arundel, in consequence of the decease of Robert Blake, Esq.

Mr. Littleton presented a petition from the inhabitants of the town of Wolverhampton, praying for an alteration in the insolvent debtors' act, which, after a few words from Lord Althorp and Mr. Hurst, was laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

Lord Hotham rose, pursuant to notice, to move that the house be called over on the 20th inst., or on whatever other day the debate should be taken upon the motion of which the right hon. president of the board of trade had given notice for the attorneygeneral of Ireland .-- Ordered accordingly.

Lord Althorp gave notice that he should upon this day se'nnight' call the attention of the house to the present mode of recovering

small debts.

Dr. Lushington presented a petition from several electors of the county of Sligo, complaining of the late return for that county, and accusing Lord Kingston and his brother of improper interference inthe affairs of the election .- Ordered to be taken into consideration on Thursday, the 15th of March.

Mr. Goulburn asked leave to bring in a bill to continue and amend the acts for training the

Irish Yeomanry.

Mr.

Mr. Haine said, that before he gave his consent to the introduction of this bill, he must beg leave to ask the right bonourable secretary whether the Irish police act of the last session had not in a great degree rendered it unnecessary? The acts which it was now intended to renew were productive of an annual expense of 66,000% or thereabouts to this country. It would be found that that sum had been voted for the use of the Irish yeomanry corps last year; and, as such was the case, it behoved the house to look a little into the manner in which they were constituted, and the purposes for which they were kept up. They were esta-blished in the year 1798; and, whatever might be the services which they then performed, he believed that since the rebellion they had been productive of much positive mischief to the country. These corps generally consisted of Orangemen, and were so far from being useful in keeping the peace, that all the tumults in the north of Ireland arose from them. The house, he was sure, would recollect that during the last year they had been called out to diminish the disturbances which existed, but that, instead of diminishing, they absolutely increased them. Indeed, the formation of these corps had been a gross job from their very commencement down to the present time; and he would demonstrate it to be so, by a paper for which he had moved during the last session of parliament, and over which he had thrown a hasty glance since he had that day entered the house. From that paper it appeared that ten brigade-majors of yeomanry corps had retired upon pensions. He

was given to understand that there men were by no means unfit for service; and if that were the case, ought they, he would ask, to be placed upon pensions, either because they wished to retire themselves, or because ministers wished to bestow their places upon others of their dependents? He had been informed that some individuals had been invalided, who were not older than he was, and who, fortunately for themselves, were in much better health. Now, invalid as he was, he should not be able to muster impudence enough ask ministers to invalid him upon a pension, supposing even that he had done any thing in their service sufficient to deserve one. To place, however, men like him on the invalid list, was not at all an uncommon occurrence with the government of Ireland. Instances might be found in the paper to which he had just alluded. The honourable member then read the names of several individuals who had been thus pensioned; and the longest period of service appeared to be fifteen years. He then stated, that the expense incurred for the present brigade-majors was 3750l. a year; whilst 1275l. a year was paid in pensions to those who had retired, and so made way for them. This was one of the discoveries that had taken place in consequence of his motion of last session that an account should be rendered of all monies paid out of the civil list, previously to the estimates for the year being presented to parliament; and he could assure the house, that he had other discoveries in store for them from the same paper, each more appalling than the other. He trusted that the house would not allow this bill to pass through all its stages, until some detail were given of the services for which these yeomanry corps were wanted. If he were mistaken in any of the points which he had stated, he should be glad to be corrected; but he believed that he was not, and in that belief he should feel it his duty to watch this bill strictly during its progress through the house.

Mr. Goulburn said, he was not prepared to explain at that moment whether the individual to whom such pointed allusion had been made was as strong or as infirm as the hon, member for Aberdeen; but if it was his intention to bring that grant under the potice of the house, he should be prepared at a fitting opportunity to give the necessary explanation regarding it. He should likewise be prepared, if the hon. gentleman intended to call the conduct of the Irish government into question, to make a fair, and, as he trusted, a satisfactory defence of it on a suitable occasion. At present, he should confine himself to the mere explanation of one circumstance; namely, how so many brigademajors were found on the list. At the close of the war, the number, which before had been very great, was reduced to the state in which it existed at present; and the supernumeraries were placed on the half-pay. Since that time, whenever any vacancy had occurred in the number of brigade-majors which it was determined to keep up, it had been filled up out of those supernumeraries; and therefore there was no ground for the assertion of the hon, gentleman, that individuals had been suffered to retire upon invalid pensions, in order that they might consult their own feelings of convenience, or that their situations might be employed as matter of patronage by the government of the country.

Mr. Abercromby said, that the right honourable secretary's argument appeared to be this-that they ought to pass this bill now, and to consider of the expense which it would entail on the country at a future opportunity. Now he (Mr. Abercromby) took this to be the wiser course—to consider of the expense in the first instance, and to pass the bill in the second. In the present distressing, and he would add most alarming state of Ireland, it was impossible to treat as a mere matter of course, a measure which tended to perpetuate a corps whose acts had been viewed by the whole country with much anxiety, and not without a little suspicion. He trusted that no attempt would be made to press this measure hastily through the house, especially as the attorney-general of Ireland would in a short time be obliged by the duty which he owed to himself, to the house, and to the country, to bring before their notice the present situation of that unfortunate country. He was of opinion that every thing which could throw any light upon the habits and feelings of the people of Ireland ought now to be brought forward.

Mr. Goulburn said, that in coming down to ask leave to bring in a bill to continue and amend the Irish yeomanry acts, he was not prepared to be called upon to discuss the much greater question of the state of Ireland at the present moment. He then entered into a defence

defence of the Irish yeomanry against the charges which had been brought against them; and after expatiating upon the great services which they had rendered to government during the war, declared that in putting down the disturbances of last year, their assistance had been eminently useful. He could assure the honourable member for Calne, that the time would come when the circumstances to which he had alluded would be brought under the grave consideration of parliament; and if he now abstained from disclosing the views of the Irish government regarding them, it was not from a fear of entering upon the discussion of them, but from a feeling that, in the present thin attendance of the house, and on the first reading of the present bill, the discussion could not be undertaken with that talent and deliberation which the importance of the subject so imperatively reguired.

Mr. Abercromby said, that he must disclaim all intentions, if, indeed, the right honourable secretary meant to attribute any such to him, of decrying altogether the existence of Irish yeomanry corps: all that he had said upon the subject was, that he looked upon the existence of these corps at all times with jealousy, and that such jealousy was at present very much increased by the peculiar circumstances in which Ireland was at this moment unfortunately situated.

Mr. V. Fitzgerald condemned the attack which the hon. member for Aberdeen had made upon the yeomanry corps of Ireland as most unfair and illiberal. The corps which he had the honour to com-

1823.

mand, instead of being composed entirely of orangemen, had not a single orangeman in it. Indeed. so far was the honourable member's statement from being correct, that to the best of his belief, in the yeomanry corps in the South of Ireland, nine out of every ten men were Roman catholics. In the county Clare there was one corps in which there were only ten protestants, and another in which he believed that there was not even one; and yet to that corps the government had been chiefly indebted on a late occasion for the quiet of the county. He contended that unless the hon, member for Aberdeen intended to assert that the yeomanry corps were altogether useless, and therefore ought to be abolished, he ought not to oppose the present bill, of which the sole object was to place them under military control. The superannuations, of which the hon. member complained, appeared to him to be made upon the best principle, and certainly not from the corrupt and profligate views which the hon, member had insinuated.

Mr. Spring Rice reminded the last speaker, that his remarks on the manner in which some yeomanry corps were constituted only applied to those in the south of Ireland. The yeomanry force of Ireland amounted, however, 30,000 men, and of these 30,000, 20,000 were raised from the single province of Ulster. Now, he would contend that all the objections to the yeomanry corps, arising from the Orange infusion by which they were tainted, applied in full force to the yeomanry of the province of Ulster, however inapplicable they might be to the yeomanry of the

south of Ireland, who furmed a much smaller body.

Mr. V. Fitzgerald explained.

Mr. Hume and Mr. Peel said a few words.

Leave was then given to bring in the bill, which was accordingly read a first time.

Mr. Goulburn, after stating that he was ready to offer any explanation, moved for leave to bring in a bill to continue the Irish arms act.

—I.eave given.

Mr. F. Lewis moved for leave to bring in a bill to explain and amend the general turnpike act.

Mr. Curwen adverted to the injury the roads in the north sustained from the heavy weights carried upon them in carts and waggons; and, after a few words from Mr. G. Bennet and Sir T. Ackland, leave was given.

Mr. Hobhouse gave notice, that he should, this year, renew his motion for the repeal of the window-tax, unless one of three contingencies occurred—1. That the country was involved in a war.—2. That the motion of Mr. Maberly was carried for the repeal of the whole of the assessed taxes.—3. That ministers themselves proposed to do away with it.

Mr. Hume, in moving for various documents relating to the Russian-Dutch loan, observed, that few were aware that, by a convention dated in May 1815, Great Britain agreed to pay to the King of the Netherlands a loan of three millions advanced to Russia: it might be said, therefore, that perhaps at the moment the Emperor Alexander was preparing to make war upon Spain with the funds of this The consideration for country. this payment was the possession of the Cape of Good Hope and

Demerara, which had since cost Great Britain about half the original purchase-money, and they must always remain a useless bur-He wished to know what amount of principal and interest had been paid since 1815. did not know whether it was possible for us to vitiate this, most impolitic engagement, but if it were entered into under the implied condition that the Emperor of Russia. was to do all in his power to preserve the peace of Europe, we clearly were not bound to adhere to it, inasmuch as he was now straining every nerve to involve Europe in a new and a netarious He concluded by moving for an account of the sums paid in British money, in pursuance of the convention, for principal and interest of the loan, and an estimate of the amount yet remaining due. -Ordered.

Mr. Hume moved for a copy of the report of the commissioners appointed to inquire into the King's quit rents and crown lands in Ire-It was his intention hereafter to submit a motion for making the crown lands of Great Britain and Ireland available for the payment of the public debt. In Ireland the quit rents amounted to between 62,000/. and 63,000/. a year, and if they were now put up to sale, he was informed that they would produce nearly **2,000,000***i*. He should be able to show that for the last century the crown lands had been of little or no value to the country, instead of being applied, as was the intention of the act of Anne, to the relief of the burdens of the people. Besides, the copy of the report, the hon. gentleman moved for an account of the sums derived from the

crown

crown lands and quit rents laid out in 3 per cent. stock, and a statement of the amount received in each year, from 1798 to the present time.

Mr. Goulburn, without opposing the motion, begged to remind the bonourable gentleman of the act of last session, brought in by a right honourable friend, one of the commissioners for the purpose of effecting, in a great degree, the object of the honourable member for Aberdeen. The first purpose was to ascertain the quit-rents due, and then to apply them. money was to be paid into the Exchequer, to be laid out in stock, and not to be transferred but under the sanction of parliament.

Mr. Hame was well aware of the act referred to; but by the 88th and 39th Geo. III., it was ordered that the quit rents should be sold, but it did not follow that because the house passed a bill it was carried into effect. The sale ought to be absolute and immediate, and the money not disposed in such a way that it could be applied by any needy Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Mr. Goulburn added, that the principal object of the bill of last session was to facilitate the means of sale. Perhaps the honourable gentleman might be able to suggest some method by which purchasers could be compelled to come That was yet into the market. necessury.

The papers required by Mr. Hume were then ordered.

Mr. Hume referred to the manner in which the two exchequers of Great Britain and Ireland had been consolidated and united some years ago, applauding the measure as calculated to save money to the

country. He saw no reason why the same plan should not be pursued with regard to all the other departments as was now the case with Scotland. A paper laid upon the table last year showed the enormous salaries of an immense number of persons dependent upon the lord lieutenant of Ireland. nearly the whole of which expense might be saved if the system he recommended were adopted. He should hereafter bring forward a proposition with this object, to remove the ford-lieutenancy and all offices connected with it to London. He was anxious, particularly, to call the attention of the house to the office of vice-treasurer of Ireland, a useless expense of between 7,000l. and 8,000l. a year, and for which nothing was done. The right honourable gentleman who now filled that sinecure passed half his time in the house of commons, voting for ministers, and one quarter of it in Derry; devoting scarcely a month in the year to the public service. Mr. flume also complained of the manner in which persons obtaining large pensions on the consolidation of the two exchequers, had been named to other lucrative situations without any dimination of the annuities they were allowed; and moved for copies of any correspondence between the chief secretary for Ireland and the chancellor of the exchaquer, respecting the office of vice-treasurer, and of any watrants issued to him for the payment of salaries. - Ordered.

Mr. Lushington moved, that such part of the lords commission ers' speech as related to a reduction in the estimates of the year should be considered in a committee of the whole house to-morrow.

Mr. Hume begged to ask if the right honourable secretary could conveniently place the particular items of reduction before the house. He wished, without waiting for the estimates in full, to have the last year's amount, and the amount to be taken for the present year, given, upon those points of expenditure as to which reduction was intended.

Mr. Lushington said, that he was prepared at the then moment to put the whole of the estimates before the house, if the forms of parliament did not prevent it.

Mr. Wm. Smith moved for an account of all extents in aid issued by the exchequer since February 1822.

The West India trade bill then went through a committee.—Report to-morrow.

Mr. Hume gave notice, that he should move on the morrow for a return of the stipends of the clergy of Scotland from the year 1750 to the present day.

The house then adjourned.

House of Commons, Feb. 12.— Mr. Canning and Mr. Herries took the oaths and their seats.

Mr. T. Wilson moved for an account of the number of persons who had been confined for debt in the King's Bench, the Fleet prison, and the other prisons in the metropolis, from the 31st of December, 1819, to the 31st of December, 1822; also for a return of the persons discharged under the new insolvent act, with a statement of the amount of their debts, and of the assets received to meet them; also for an account of the persons finally remanded by the insolvent court.—Ordered.

Mr. Freemantle brought up the report of the committee on the

West India and American colonies trade act.

The resolutions of the committee were then agreed to, and leave was given to bring in a bill founded upon them.

On the motion of *Dr. Phillimore*, this bill was read a first, and was ordered to be read a second time

on Friday next.

Mr. Maberly presented a petition from the merchants and tradesmen of Abingdon, in the county of Berks, against the insolvent debtors' act.

On the motion of Mr. Goulburn, the Irish yeomanry act was read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time on Wednesday next.

Mr. Wallace rose in pursuance of the notice he had given, to move for the revival of the committee of last session, to consider of the best means of improving and extending the foreign trade of the country. He made this motion not merely upon the general grounds that the commerce of the country was likely to receive important advantages from the labours of such a committee, but also upon a special reason arising out of the circumstances under which the committee had separated at the close of last session. He was sure that the house would recollect that. when the dock system was first established in this country, certain exclusive privileges were granted to those who expended their capital in promoting it. Those privileges. however, were only granted for a limited period, and at present many of them were about to expire. The first to expire were those granted to the West India Dock Company: and that body, contemplating their approaching expiration, had presented a petition

to parliament, praying for their farther continuance. That petition had been met by others, of which the prayer was directly the reverse; and these conflicting petitions had been referred to the consideration of the committee upon foreign trade. The committee, feeling the importance of the question, not merely as it related to individuals, but also as it affected the commercial interests of the country at large, thought it to be their duty to suspend the examination of the subject upon which they were then engaged, and to devote their time and their attention to the inquiry which the house had intrusted to its care. In consequence, they prosecuted that inquiry with the utmost diligence, and, before the close of the session. collected all the evidence which was material to it. By the time, however, that such evidence was collected, the session was nearly brought to a conclusion, and the committee then felt that they had neither time, nor indeed, owing to many members having left town for the country, numbers sufficient to offer an opinion upon it that was likely to prove satisfactory either to the house or to the nation in general. That consideration led them to defer the delivery of their opinion to the present session, when they trusted that they should be re-appointed, and when they were more likely to come to a just and satisfactory decision, from the greater length of time in which they would have to form it. Such, then, was the situation in which the question rested at present. Evidence had been collected and materials for decision had been prepared; it remained only for the house to place the committee once

more in such a situation as would enable it to give, and the house to receive, the opinions which it had derived from a thorough examination of the whole subject. ing stated this special ground for the re-appointment of the committee, he deemed it totally unnecessary to enter into any of the general grounds. The principal objects to which the committee had directed its attention were well known to the house; the course of its inquiries was also known; and the result of them had been in some instances brought before it in a legislative shape; and therefore all that the committee had done, and all that it intended to do, rendered it quite unnecessary for him to go at any length into a discussion of such a nature. Neither did he feel it to be more necessary to enter into any detailed account of the export trade of the country; indeed, at the present moment, the materials for such a discussion were not in his possession. Still, in bringing forward a motion like the present, be could not avoid calling the attention of the house to the very different situation in which the commerce of the country now stood, from that in which it stood at the time when this committee was first of all appointed. At that time great distress pervaded the nation, and a general feeling of despondency prevailed among all ranks and classes of society. The general exports of the country in the four vears from 1815 to 1819 had decreased fourteen millions in official value; and he took the official rather than the actual value, because the official value was the measure of quantity, and because it was from quartity that the best medsure

measure was derived of the employment afforded to the different classes of the community. In the year from the 5th of January 1819, to the 5th of January 1820, the export trade fell no less than eleven millions; and in looking at that part of it which was more completely of British and Irish manufacture, he found that the difference in four years was 8,414,711L and that in the year from 5th of January 1820, to 5th of January 1821, there was a decrease of Nobody, therefore, **8,929,629***l*. could be surprised that at that period the industry of the country appeared to be in a state of the ulmost depression—that our manufacturers were most of them unemployed-that our agriculturists were many of them embarrassed, and that the country, to use a phrase which he recollected an hon, friend of his had employed in presenting a petition from the merchants of London, exhibited all the appearance of a dying nation. Though the condition of the agricultural interest was not at present as favourable as he could wish, still it was most satisfactory to him to have it in his power to state, that not only did the exports of last year exceed those of all the years to which be had just been alluding, but also those of the most flourishing year which the country had known during all the continuance of the war. all the material articles, he was happy to say that there had been a material increase. The export of cotton had increased 10 per cent; of hardware, 17 per cent.; of linens, 12 per cent; and of woollens, 13 per cent.; and the aggregate exports of 1822 exceeded those of 1820, 20 per cent. and

those of 1821, 7 per cent. notwithstanding a deduction was to be made from the exports of one great article-refined sugar, owing to a prohibitory decree of Russia, amounting at least to 35 per cent. Such was the state of the export trade at the present moment; and he did not know that any stronger reason could be given for the revival of the committee on foreign trade, than that which the flourishing state of that trade naturally suggested. It could not fail to strike the observation of every member in the house, that we held that trade at the present moment upon a yery different tenure from that upon which we held it during At that time we were the war. almost the only nation in the world that had any foreign trade at all: at present we had to stand against the competition of every other nation; and happy was he to perceive that we could stand against it with every prospect of \$UCCESS. To make that prospect even more satisfactory than it was at present, nothing more was necoasary than to institute a revision of our commercial system, to remove the greater part of our prohibitory laws and restrictions, and to put ourselves in a situation that would enable us to avail ourselves of the chances and contingencies which the state of the world seemed ready to open to the commercial skill and enterprise of England, On many of the subjects which had been originally submitted to the consideration of the committee, the opinions of the committee had been declared to and the house had the house. adopted such measures upon them as seemed best suited to the circumstances of the case. If there had

had not yet been sufficient time for the country to reap any great benefits from those measures, there had still been sufficient time to show that none of the evils which it was predicted would arise from them had been realized. Whilst they had released the navigation laws from the mass of useless legislation by which they had been formerly incumbered, it was gratifying to observe, that the navigation of the country had not at all diminished, and that the effects which it had been confidently stated would occur with regard to one particular branch of our trade had by no means taken place. He had had a paper recently placed in his hands, which showed that instead of the Levant trade coming through Holland into the ports of this country, as had been predicted, English vessels were now actually exporting articles of that trade from British ports to those of Holland. They had likewise been told, that the Norway trade, as also that of the North American colonies, would be cut up by the roots, if the measures formerly proposed were carried into execution. They had been carried into execution; and from information which he had received, he could now acquaint the house, that the Norway trade had actually increased the last year-that debts there which had been thought desperate had recently been recovered - and that the North American trade had been extended, instead of undergoing the diminution which had been so loudly threatened. committee had also been instructed to look at the great question of opening farther facilities to our commerce with the East. had consequently taken it into

their consideration, and had offered their opinions upon it to the house, which were found to concur with those formed by a committee of the other house of parliament, that had been deliberating upon the same subject. The advantages which had been anticipated from the measures which they had proposed to the house had not proved so great as had been expected; but still considerable advantage had been derived from allowing English ships, of a certain burden, to be placed on the same footing with foreign ships, and to sail direct from our ports to India. committee was desirous that the same privilege should be extended to all descriptions of ships, but they could not recommend such a measure to be adopted, as they were bound down by a specific act of parliament, which, in common fairness to the East India Company, ought not to be infringed. trusted, however, that that great body, which received so much benefit from the act in question, would at an early period evince a disposition to make some concession from its strict rights to the general good of the community. The last subject on which the committee was instructed to inquire, was the burdets imposed on the shipping of the country. That subject had not been neglected by the committee; and he felt great pleasure in now returning thanks to one great corporation for the alacrity and zeal with which it had carried the recommendations of the committee into effect. In consequence of foreign ships being placed more nearly upon a foeting with our own, many of them had already sought in dangerous weather a shelter in our ports:

ports; and if one of the many vessels which had formerly been scared from our coasts by the heavy duties which they had to pay on entering our harbours, had been, or should be saved from shipwreck by such an alteration in our commercial policy, the labours of the committee would, in their own opinion, and that of all good men, be amply repaid. luable as all the measures to which he had been just alluding had proved to the country, they were not more valuable than the declarations which they had elicited from the government and from the house, of the real principles on which they thought that British commerce ought to rest—namely, that they ought to get rid of the old restrictive system of commerce, and to adopt in its stead one more liberal in its nature and more beneficial to the intercourse of foreign nations with this country. Those declarations had had their full weight both at home and abroad; they had already made several of the nations of Europe more liberal in their commercial restrictions; many countries had already placed English ships on the same footing with their own, and had shown a disposition to act towards us on a sytem of complete reciprocity. He was convinced that we could adopt the principle of reciprocity with perfect safety to the navigation of the country. For his own part, he had no doubt upon the subject, and he trusted that in a short time the country would have none also. aware, however, of the difficulties with which they had to struggle at every step in their endeavours to arrive at a free trade—difficulties which arose, not merely from old

and antiquated prejudices, which, he trusted, would gradually fade away, but also from a morbid sensibility incident to the manufacturers of this, and, he believed, of every other country—that every advantage granted to the foreigner was a positive injury to themselves. He was as much allied to the real interests of the manufacturer as any man could be; but in discussing a great question in which all the interests of the country were concerned, he must be convinced, before he was persuaded to yield to their remonstrances, that it was a real danger which they feared, and not a mere idle alarm or visionary apprehension. He therefore trusted that while the house shewed a readiness to give the protection that was at all times due to the manufacturing interests of the country, it would also remember its duty to the nation at large, and to the commercial interests of all the community. The right honourable gentleman then concluded amidst loud cheering, by moving that a select committee be appointed to consider the means of improving and extending the foreign trade of the country, and to report from time to time their opinious and observations thereon to the house.

Mr. Baring said the merits of the right honourable gentleman were fully appreciated by the merchants of London, and there was but one opinion amongst them, and that was—that since the first establishment of the Board of Trade, all the exertions of all its former presidents were not, when united, equal to those which had been made by the right honourable gentleman alone, during the time he had filled that office with so much

honour

honour to himself, and so much advantage to the community at large.

Mr. Ricardo rose for the purpose of paying his tribute of respect to the merits of the right honourable gentleman who had so lately filled the office of president of the Board of Trade. He had heard his very flattering account of the export trade of the country. It had been said that the exports were greater now than they had been during the most flourishing year of the war. It ought likewise to be stated, that during the war our great foreign exports went to meet our great foreign expenditure; whereas at present we received valuable returns for every thing we exported.

Mr. Butterworth begged leave to add his testimony of respect to those which had already been paid to the right honourable gentleman.

Mr. Hume rose merely to express his deep regret that the country was likely to lose the services of the right honourable gentleman (Mr. Wallace), who for the last two or three years had devoted his attention so beneficially to the public.

Mr. Canning cordially agreed in what had just fallen from the hon. member for Aberdeen; he regretted as much as any man, that any circumstances had occurred to induce his right honourable friend (Mr. Wallace) to withdraw his aid from his Majesty's government. What those circumstances were, was not, perhaps, a fit subject for discussion: he could only say, that there was no member of administration who did not join with him in appreciating most highly the talents and utility of the coadjutor they were about to lose: all felt towards him the same degree of cordiality which he (Mr. Canning) expressed. Though feelings of delicacy and some private matters might induce his right honourable friend to relinquish the situation he now held, no effort should be left untried on the part of the King's government to replace him in an office equal to his high abilities and eminent services.

The question was then put, and the committee was re-appointed.

Mr. Spring Rice rose to call the attention of the house to a subject of peculiar delicacy and importance, but in doing so he would only occupy a few minutes. Without now entering into the merits of the case, he was anxious to state specifically the present condition of the question, and to ask ministers what course they intended to pursue. The commissioners appointed in 1814 to inquire into the conduct of ministers and officers of courts of justice in Ireland, had made various reports; they had done their duty honestly and earnestly, and had accomplished a great public benefit. The particular report affecting the question now before the house was presented in April 1821; and it was soon afterwards returned to the lord chief baron of Ireland, as it included charges against him of the gravest importance: the imputation was no less than thisthat as a judge he had been guilty of extortion upon the suitors of the court, by taking from them in the shape of fees that which was not due, more than was due, or what was not due at the time it was taken. In June 1821, he (Mr. S. Rice) had moved a series of resolutions founded upon the report, but they were suspended at the

request

request of the Marquis of Londonderry, who subsequently moved for a select committee, which made a report that the justification of the chief baron upon certain parts of the charges was not satisfactory, and that upon others farther information was necessary. The noble marquis was understood to have pledged himself that the matter should be referred to the competent authorities in Ireland: and in May 1822, it was sent back to the commissioners of in-Their report upon the charges was again transmitted to the chief baron; and in reply that learned lord had transmitted a letter, which was upon the table of Thus, then, the questhe house. tion now stood: a charge had been made, the learned lord had pleaded not guilty, and had put in a justification, and the two parties were at issue. Although he (Mr. Rice) at the end of last session had given notice that he would bring the subject under discussion in the present, yet in a matter of this delicacy and magnitude, he held that it was the duty of the government not to stand by as neutrals, but either to protect the character of the judge, if falsely accused, or the administration of justice, if improperly discharged. He moved for copies of all correspondence since last session upon the ninth and eleventh report of the commissioners of inquiry regarding the charges against Chief Baron O'Grady.

Mr. Goulburn was confident that the honourable member must anticipate the reply he should give to the inquiry contained in what had been just stated, and he trusted that the house would concur in the propriety of the course govern-

ment thought itself called upon to pursue. For ministers to proceed in the accusation, would in his opinion be to make this solemn question a party matter, and would be highly prejudicial to the interests of justice. He did not say that cases might not occur in which the government would be called upon to interpose, but he contended that the present was It had been not one of them. begun by the honourable meinber for Limerick (Mr. Rice); he had persevered in it through several sessions, and he had even this night followed it up by moving for The charge additional documents. could not be in better hands.

Mr. Abercromby, after referring to what had formerly fallen from him upon this subject, contended that the Marquis of Londonderry, by the proceeding he had recommended, and by the committee he had appointed, had, in point of fact, adopted this accusation. was no duty more important than for a government to watch over the due administration of justice, by which the interests of the people were so especially guarded. the honourable member for Limerick would take his advice, he would recommend him to drop the subject, in order to see if ministers would venture to remain passive spectators.

Mr. Peel declared most solemnly that he thought the ends of justice would be best promoted by leaving the case in the hands of the honourable gentleman who had originally undertaken it. He and other members of government were desirous of the most patient and impartial attention to whatever the honourable gentleman might bring forward.

Mr.

Mr. C. Grant thought, however, that the best course which could be taken at present, would be to refer the whole matter to a committee anew.

Mr. Wynn, at some length, went through the various steps which had been taken in the transaction. No deubt the case was one which demanded full investigation; but he thought it better that the hon. gentleman should pursue it, than that government should take it up.

Mr. Spring Rice did not mean to assert that the late Lord Londonderry had directly pledged either himself or the government by moving for the committee; but certainly the noble marquis' referring the matter to a committee of his own nomination, was the most extraordinary step which could be conceived towards leaving it entirely in his (Mr. S. Rice's) hands. He had no objection to the responsibility which the right honourable the late secretary for Ireland seemed to throw upon him; but he thought that it would be lessening the dignity of the proceeding to consider it as promoted by any individual, and not by the government.

It was then ordered that the correspondence should be presented.

Mr. Hume, in bringing forward his motion upon this subject, promised that he should be brief, because he anticipated no opposition. The motion which he now brought forward was for a return of the stipends received by the Scottish clergy; he meant that the elergy, who were about nine hundred and forty in number, should be divided (as to stipend) into four classes, the maximum and minimum of each class being given; and by this

means a tolerably accurate notion of each individual's income might be obtained, without the embarrassment of extended detail, or the sacrifice of personal feeling. wished to see that account, in order that he might compare the salaries of 1750 with those paid during the last three years. Hume then moved, that there should be laid upon the table,-1st; a return of the number of parishes in Scotland, of the number of churches in each, and of the number of clergymen; by which it would appear, he said, that the Scottish clergy were resident, in opposition to the course pursued by their brethren of England; 2dly, for a return of the annual value, in money, of the stipends of the clergy of Scotland during the last three years, exclusive of the manse, the offices, and the glebe; 3dly, for the same return according to an account taken in the year 1750.

Mr. Peel had his doubts whether the account called for by the honourable gentleman could be made out without application to each particular clergyman. He wished that the honourable gentleman would, at all events, withdraw his motion until the possibility of complying with it should be ascertained.

Mr. Hume was surprised that any gentleman, in the right hon. secretary's situation, should be ignorant that there was an office in Scotland, called the Teind Office, which was in possession of the income of every clergyman in the country. Even if there were a necessity for sending round to every parish, he did not see why that necessity should form any bar to his motion. No such necessity, however, did exist.

Mr. Peel was surprised that, after making a motion quite different from his notice given, the honourable gentleman (Mr. Hume) should charge him with ignorance of the duties of his office. He had merely proposed to the honourable gentleman to suspend his motion for a few days, until the practicability of complying with it could be ascertained; and the hon, gentleman on the strength of a private reference to an office with which he (Mr. Peel) was not in communication, came forward to charge him with ignorance. He repeated that the honourable gentleman's motion differed entirely from the notice which he had given.

Mr. Hume hoped that the notice would be read.

The notice was then read—for a return of stipends of the clergy of Scotland in the years 1750 and 1822.

Mr. Peel doubted whether any return for the year 1750 was in existence.

Sir George Clerk wished the lion. gentleman opposite (Mr. Hume) to give some time for inquiry. The honourable member sat down by supporting the declaration of Mr. Peel, that Mr. Hume had brought forward a motion entirely different from his notice.

Mr. Hume said that his motion was the same in effect as his notice, but that in the notice he had not thought it necessary to give the details. He could have no objection to postpone the motion for ten days or twenty days. He wished, however, that it might be entered upon without unnecessary delay, as the proceedings arising out of it would occupy time.

Mr. Holme Sumner moved for a writ to elect a new member for

the county of Dorset, in the place of Edward Berkeley Portman, Esq. deceased.

A similar motion was made for the borough of Winchelsea, in the place of Lucius Concannon, Esq. deceased.

On the motion of Mr. Lushington, that the house do resolve itself into a committee of supply,

Mr. Hume begged to say a very few words. He had been pleased, and indeed every man in the house must have been pleased, with the promises held out in the speech from the throne, respecting eco-But, however unpleasant nomv. it was to doubt the words of the throne, when those words were formally addressed to the house of commons, he felt himself under the necessity of taking that disagreeable course. He had taken the trouble to select from royal speeches past, one or two instances to prove how little the declarations of ministers in such speeches were to be relied on: he said the "declarations of ministers," because every one was aware that it was the minister who spoke from the mouth of the sovereign. In the year 1817, after a speech from the throne abounding in promises reduction in expenditure, he found that the estimates for the year had been 13,000,000*l.* some hundred thousands, and the actual disbursements 14,000,000l. some hundred thousands: giving an expenditure over the estimates of little less than 1,000,000*l*. the year 1819, again, after promises of reduction in our naval and military establishments, there was an increase of a million in the expenditure over the estimate—the estimate being 14,300,000L and disbursement the 15,155,000*l*.

Again,

Again, in the year 1821, after the royal speech had been satisfied that reduction could be made in the military establishment, the estimate was 14,300,000l. and the expenditure upwards of 15,000,000l. In spite, therefore, of all the protestations of economy, it appeared that the expenditure of the year 1821 was more than 200,000%. greater than that of the year 1817: so was the house seduced with fair words and fair promises, until the actual amount of disbursement came to be declared, and then it appeared that there had been no reduction whatever-no real decrease of the burden imposed upon the country. It was the duty, then, of the house to look, not at the sweet and honied words of ministers, but at the eventual result of their measures; and this brought him to the speech from the throne in the present session, upon which he was anxious to make one or two observations. The speech declared, if he was not mistaken, that the estimates of the year had been framed with every attention to economy. This was the very self-same phrase which had gone through all the speeches for the last 20 years; and the house, from the experience of former sessions, would judge what value was to be attached to it. The hon. gent. then proceeded with calculations meant to shew that the expenditure of the year ending January 1822, exceeded that of the year 1817. But from statement, he would general come to particular instances, and one example would be as good as a thousand, of the improvidence which he reprobated. Let the house look at the recent appointment of Lord George Beresford to the post of lieut-general of the ordnance. Hon. members would recollect, when they looked at the ordnance estimates, that the charge of that department had increased from 400,000l. to 1,200,000l. a year; that the expense of the office in the Tower had risen from 16,000l. a year to 48,000/, and that the pay of the lieut.-general of the ordnauce, instead of 1100l. a year, was now 1950/. How often had ministers declared their intention-their desire—to bring down salaries as near as possible to the level of the year 1792! He had forborne to press the reduction of the lieut .general of the ordnance's salary last session, because it might have seemed severe upon the then incumbent Sir Hildebrand Okes: but who had ever contemplated who could ever have contemplated the giving the existing salary to any subsequently-appointed officer? If the house would look back to the 13th report of the commissioners of military inquiry,a commission nominated in the years 1811 expressly to suggest measures of economy in the military establishments of the country,-they would find that the office of lieutenant-general of the ordnance was deemed unnecessary-provided the attention of the master-general of the ordnance was duly given to his charge, and not diverted from it by the fact of his having other appointments to attend to. There had certainly been a difference of opinion upon this point. Lord Moira had considered the office of lieutenantgeneral superfluous; Lord Chatham had held it to be useful; the commissioners, on deliberation. had agreed with Lord Moira. But with

with that report of the year 1811 upon the table of the house, with the positive declaration of the commissioners that they considered the office unnecessary; after having the office declared unnecessary, even in time of war, he appealed to parliament, to the country, to ministers themselves, upon what ground they could justify the falling it up in time of peace? would trouble the house no farther upon the point at the present moment. He wished to guard himself against being supposed, by any thing he was saying, to cast imputation upon the noble lord who now filled the office in question: he understood, indeed, that the noble lord had known nothing of the arrangement until the situation was pressed upon him. He believed that the noble lord's merits as an officer were unrivalled; but taking them to be so, they had not been forgetten by the country. He must just name one or two facts to guard himself against being told that this situation was given to the noble lord as a reward of his signal services. He wished and rejoiced to see the noble lord enjoying all the honours and empluments which he had received both from the Portuguese government, and from that of his own country. The noble lord, on being raised to the peerage, had obtained a pension of 2000l. a year. He (Mr. Hume) did not grudge that pension. He thought it only right that when the noble lord received his title, he should also receive something to enable him to support it. But, besides this pension of 2000l. a year, the noble lord was governor of Jersey, an appointment which produced him 14221. a year; he was a

lieutenant-general in the army, and a colonel of a regiment, situations which gave him at least 1000l. a year more; and in addition to these holdings, by the gazette of three nights back, he took a new appointment (the aituation declared a useless one) of 1500l. a year. Notwithstanding the valour and the services of Lord Beresford, which he of all men would be most unwilling to disparage, he could not help believing that he was rather indebted for his appointment to this office, to the enormous influence possessed by his family. The time would shortly arrive when he should show to the house the thousands and the tens of thousands of public money which was received by that family, and particularly from the revenues of the church in Ireland. There was exercised by them somewhere and somehow. an influence which he had no hesitation in saying ought to be diminished. For the present, however, he believed he had shown enough to convince the house that his Majesty's ministers were bound to explain why, in contradiction of the recommendation of the committee of military inquiry for the abulition of the office of lieutenantgeneral, they had thought 'fit to continue it. It was imperative upon them to lay before the house the grounds upon which they had acted, and the house ought not, and he hoped would not, grant the supplies, until the information he now required should be furnished. He would not now allude to the notions which the finance committee might have entertained upon the subject; but he had taken occasion to consult several gentlemen well acquainted with the duties of

the office; they were unanimously of opinion that it was altogether unnecessary. If he chose to detail all he knew upon the subject, the house would see how adequately all the business of the department was conducted by the clerks, when the lieutenant-general was absent; but as this was foreign to the subject, he would not touch upon it at present. What be wished the house to consider was the nature and necessity of the office. The public expected, from the pledge which had lately been given, that a rigid economy should be practised in every department: they were willing to grant, with befitting liberality, all that was really essential to the state, but they had a right to demand that every other expense should be cur-Such questions as that before the house had hitherto been carried by an everwhelming majority on the part of ministers. He hoped now, however, to have the assistance of many gentlemen who, till this day, had never been aware of the consequences of blindly following those leaders by whom they had been brought into danger and distress. He should therefore submit the following motion: Resolved, that as a committee of military inquiry had, by their report made in the year 1811, stated, that in their belief, and from the information which had been given them, the appointment of kieutenant-general of the ordnance was not essential to the service, this house is of upinion that the recent appointment is inconsistent with the professions of economy from the throne, and requires the fullest explanation why that appointment has been made in the time of peace.

Mr. Canning asked whether the honourable gentleman meant to put this as an amendment.

Mr. Hume replied in the affirmative.

The Speaker then put the above resolution.

Mr. Cunning would submit to the house, and to the honourable gentleman himself, whether the question was in such a shape at this moment as would justify his pressing it. He would appeal to the honourable gentleman whether the case he had now made out did not involve circumstances more particularly calling for deliberation. He did not mean to say that it was not competent to the hon. gentleman to pursue the course he was now adopting; but it surely could not be advisable to resort to the extreme remedy of stopping the supplies until he obtained an answer to his question, without baving given previous notice of his intention to submit it to the consideration of the house. honourable gentleman had thought fit to ascribe Lord Beresford's appointment to the parliamentary influence of his family. He would appeal to any man of candour tosay whether the rank and services of that gallant officer were not mere probable reasons. It would be recollected with whom the nomination lay; it could not fall to occur to gentlemen, that the ties of mutual esteem, of long acquaintance, of long service tegether, of companionship in arms and glory, must have had no small effect with the Duke of Wellington. Considering these things, no candid mind would hesitate to admit, that other motives had operated upon the noble Duke than those which had been suggested gested by the honourable gentleman; and that, whatever weight the parliamentary influence of his family might have had, if the appointment had been with ministers, those considerations could not apply to the Duke of Wellington. **be** would do more than offer reasoning on the subject; he would state two facts-first, that it had been offered to a noble lord to whom the same objection did not applyhe meant Lord Hopetown; and secondly, it had been offered to Lord Hill. So that Lord Beresford came the third upon the list; and the same motives of fellowship and fitness for service which had placed it within the choice of others, gave it at length to him. He did not know what case the honourable gentleman might mean to submit to the house, but surely it could not be denied that previous notice was necessary. took no shame to himself for being ignorant of the details of that department; it was enough for him at present to direct the attention of the house to these points-that there had been no previous discontinuance—that it had been filled up in the usual course—that it had been given to a fit man, and bestowed by an authority which could be the least fairly suspected of those corrupt motives which were supposed by the honourable gentleman to pervade every branch of the administration. He hoped it would be thought that the course now proposed was not that which ought to be adopted, nor consistent with the practice of parliament.

Mr. Brougham felt that he was obliged to oppose his honourable friend's motion. He did so with regret; but the question was one which it behoved the house to deliberate upon seriously; and as this could not be done without the assistance of the persons of that department to whom it belonged to defend the appointment, he wished it should be postponed to period when their presence could be ensured. The question did not, and could not, apply personally to Lord Beresford. man could be more ready than he was to admit the worth and services of that meritorious officer. Nothing could be more natural than that the Duke of Wellington should feel a disposition to offer this appointment to him, as well as to two others of his gallant companions in arms; but still the information was wanting why it was given to any one. He should be glad if his honourable friend would postpone his motion for the present, giving, at the same time, notice of his intention to bring it before the house at an early and more convenient opportunity. did not apprehend that the delay would be at all injurious to the fate of the question, because it would neither preclude its revival when it might be thought expedient, nor would it in the mean time relax that inquisitorial attention which the house and the country would continue to keep upon the subject, until it should again come to be discussed.

Mr. Hume explained. He was sorry to be compelled to differ from his honourable friend, but the house was really in no way taken by surprise. Any gentleman who remembered what he said in the debates of 1821 and 1822 on this subject, must know that the vacancy was then regarded as one never to be filled up. The information he asked might be furnished

on Friday: the delay in granting the supplies would be only one of eight and forty hours.

Sir R. Fergusson expressed his esteem for Lord Beresford's character, and his sense of his public services, but he felt that on this occasion private friendship ought to give way. He supported the motion.

Mr. Warre wished the usual parliamentary practice of giving notice should always be followed.

Mr. G. Bennet supported his hon, friend's (Mr. Hume) motion, notwithstanding his high personal regard for Lord Beresford. wished the question to be fairly put, that it might be seen whether the house would support it, or

Mr. Brougham, in explanation, said, God forbid he should oppose any inquiry but for the purpose of making it more effectnal.

Mr. G. Bennet explained.

Mr. C. Hutchinson, in rising to support the motion, would neither be understood to undervalue the merit of Lord Beresford, nor to withhold from the government those supplies which at the present momentous crisis were necessary for the dignity of the country.

Mr. Abercromby said, he had always been taught to consider that it was one of their most valuable privileges to be able to stop the supplies; he therefore thought port of London, and in the outthey ought not to trifle with it, nor call it into action but upon the most important occasions. His hon. friend's motion was upon a strong case. He would suggest to him the propriety of disconnecting it from the question of supply in which he must be in a minority; 1823.

and of letting it stand upon its intrinsic merits, when there was no doubt he would command a large majority. He should be governed by his hon, friend's decision: if he resolved to disconnect it, he should support it; otherwise, he regretted that he should be obliged to vote against it.

Sir. F. Burdett thought that the measure of stopping the supplies ought never to be resorted to but in the case of a great grievance, and one for which no other adequate remedy presented itself. of opinion that the postponement would at once be convenient to his friends, and beneficial to his own success, if his hon, friend would consent to it.

Mr. Hume had heard nothing of weight in favour of the postponement, but what had fallen from the hon, baronet. He would be very unwilling to affect that strong and unanimous feeling which prevailed in the house on the other evening; and he should therefore beg leave to withdraw his amendment.

The house then resolved itself Several resointo a committee. lutions were agreed to. The house then resumed, and the report was ordered to be brought up to-morrow.

Colonel Davies moved for a return of all the persons employed in the collection of the customs in the ports of the kingdom, stating each particular class, together with the duties performed by each, the amount of salaries, and the total amount of the charges of the establishment from the 1st of January, 1822, to the same date in 1823,-Ordered.

**E** The The same returns were also ordered, upon his motion, for Ireland.

The hon, member moved for an account of all the seamen employed on shore in the preventive service,

which was also ordered.

The hon. member also moved for a return of the value of captures made by revenue cutters during the last year, and also the number of cutters employed; which, after a few words from Sir G. Cockburn and the mover, was agreed to.

Mr. Peel observed, as we understood, that he had made inquiries as to the effect produced by the preventive establishment on the coast, and all the information he had received tended to prove that it had been, in every point of view,

most beneficial.

Mr. G. Bennet made an inquiry with respect to the number of persons in gaol on charges connected with smuggling.

Mr. Peel said a few words in reply, but they were wholly in-

audible in the gallery.

Mr. Hume gave notice, that he would to-morrow move for an account of the money expended by the commissioners under the new church act, and of the balance re-

maining in their hands.

Mr. Curteis moved for a return of the quantity of hops exported from Great Britain to Ireland from the 1st of January, 1821, to the 31st of January, 1822; together with a similar account of the quantity of hops exported from Great Britain to foreign countries during the same period.—Ordered.

The house then adjourned.

House of Lords, Feb. 13.—A person from the East India House presented the account of pensions,

superannuations, and allowances granted by the East India Company since the account presented during the last session of parliament; also the proceedings of the court of directors as to the allowances to certain ship-owners.

A person from the office of the commissioners for the redemption of the national debt, presented an account of the sums applied by the commissioners to the reduction of the debt during the last year.

Lord Holland presented a petition from the merchants, bankers, and traders of the town of Nottingham, complaining of the Insolvent debtors' act; and also a similar petition from the merchants, bankers, and traders of Gainsborough, in the county of Lincoln.

Lord Colchester presented a petition from the clergy of Colchester, complaining of the marriage act

amendment bill.

Adjourned.

House of Commons, Feb. 13.—
There being only thirty-six members present, the Speaker, after counting the house, declared that it stood adjourned.

House of Lords, Feb. 14.—A person from the tax-office presented an account, under the act of 3d Geo. IV., cap. 88, of the salaries, allowances, and emoluments in any manner accruing to the receivers-

general of taxes.

A person from the clerk of the crown in Ireland presented the writs and return on electing a temporal peer in Ireland, in the place of Stephen Earl of Mount-Cashel, deceased. The election had failen on Viscount Lorton.

Lord Stowell presented a petition from the archdeaconry of Berks, complaining of the marriage riage act.—Ordered to lie on the table.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, Feb. 14.— Various returns were laid upon the table from the East India House, the commissioners for the reduction of the national debt, the Bank, the tax-office, and various other public offices.

Mr. Dugdule presented a petition from the merchants and traders of Nuneaton, in the county of Warwick, praying for the repeal of the insolvent act.—Ordered to

be printed.

Sir H. Parnell in presenting a report from the commissioners of inquiry, relative (we believe) to the customs and excise of Ireland, asked Mr. Wallace, whether there was any intention of introducing any bills to carry into effect the recommendations of the report.

Mr. Wallace replied, that bills would in a short time be laid upon

the table of the house.

Mr. Curteis presented a petition from the hop-planters of Newhurst, in the county of Sussex, praying for relief, by the repeal of the hop duty.

Admiral Sotheron presented a petition from the archdeacon of Nottingham, complaining of the new marriage act.—Laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

Dr. Phillisnore presented a petition from the doan and chapter of the cathedral church of Norwich, stating that the power of granting licences had been taken from them by the new marriage act, and praying for some compensation.

Mr. Bright thought that the rights of the peculiar jurisdictions had been very properly taken away

from them.

The petition was ordered to be

printed; as was a similar petition from the Rev. W. Johnstone Younge, the official of the diocese of Norwich.

Mr. Beanet presented a petition from Warminster, in the county of Wilts, praying for the repeal of the insolvent debtors' act.

Mr. Abercromby was sorry to perceive that there was such a strong popular feeling against the principle of this bill. He suggested to the opposers of the present bill, that it might be advisable for them to move for the appointment of a committee, and to refer to their consideration all the petitions on this subject.

Mr. Bright condemned the present insolvent act in very strong terms. He thought that the committee just proposed by the hon. and learned gentleman would be useless for any good purpose.

Mr. Marryat was convinced that, as far as the metropolis was concerned, the general desire was to leave the principle of the bill untouched, but to render its provisions more adequate.

Mr. Calvert corroborated by his testimony the statement of the last

speaker.

Mr. J. C. Hobhouse declared that one of the objections to the act was, that it had formed a court which swallowed up by its fees all the property of the insolvents. He was of opinion that they could not form a proper bill without altering entirely the constitution of the insolvent court.

After a few words from Mr. Hart Davis, the petition was laid on the table, and ordered to be

printed.

Mr. G. Bennet presented a petition from the mayor and alderman

e2 of

of Shrewsbury against the new

marriage act.

A member stated that great hardship had been inflicted on the patrons and officials of the peculiar jurisdictions, and expressed a hope that those hardships would be removed by the bill then before the house.

The petition was then ordered

to be printed.

Mr. Marryat rose for the pur pose of renewing his dropped motion for information respecting the Dotterel and Carnation cruisers. He gave notice that he should bring it forward on Thursday the 27th instant.

Mr. Birch presented a petition from the merchants, bankers, &c. of Nottingham, praying for the repeal of the insolvent act.

Mr. Denman said, that anxious as he was to have the act amended, he could not go the length of repealing the bill altogether.

After a few words from Mr. Bright, the petition was brought

up and laid upon the table.

Mr. S. Wortley presented a petition from Bradford against the insolvent debtors' act.

Mr. Wetherell, after terming the marriage act an Arabia of rapine and confusion, and a gregarious mass of errors, laid upon the table a petition from the Archdeacon of Oxford against it. The honourable gentleman recommended that the bill now before the house to amend the act of last session should not be committed until after the recess.

Mr. C. Calvert agreed that the hardships complained of in many of the petitions ought to be remedied. If the existing law were not amended, he feared very much that he should still not be able to change his state, which had been

miscalled that of single blessed-

Mr. Peel enforced the claims of

the petitioner.

Dr. Lushington said, some method ought to be adopted of restoring to archdeacons and peculiars their undoubted rights: if these ancient jurisdictions were abolished the duties must be fulfilled elsewhere, and that could not be accomplished without giving some recompense.

Dr. Phillimore said, the object of his bill now upon the table was to retain all that had not been altered by the lords, and to amend all the clauses the lords had inserted. Although peculiar jurisdictions were highly objectionable, he admitted that their abolition ought to be attended by compensation.

The Attorney-Gener. said, if it were only for the sake of the hon. member for Southwark, we hoped the bill would be amended.

Sir J. Macintosh was prepared to say that the bill of last session contained a new and a just principle—the indissolubility of marriage: so far it was an important benefit, and outweighed any slight inconveniences resulting from the hasty passing of the bill. He recommended, as there was also new a bill in the other house of parliament, that to avoid clashing, and for greater deliberation, the hongentleman (Dr. Phillimore) should postpone his measure.

Dr. Phillimore said that he intended to bave it read a second time to-night, and to fix a distant

day for the committee.

Mr. Butterworth expressed his apprehension, as so many new obstacles had been thrown in the way of marriage, that parties who wished wished to be united had taken each, other's words.

The petition was then laid upon the table.

Mr. Maberly moved that an account ahould be laid upon the table, of the public income of the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, for the year ending the. 5th of January, 1823, deducting. allowances, discounts, drawbacks, and other current expenses; and of the number of issues and payments within the same period, exclusive of the sums paid on account of the interest of the public debt, and on account of the unfunded debt. He thought that the paper moved for ought to be before the house before the right hon. gentleman opposite (Mr. nous...son) came forward with his exposition of the state of the country.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer was exerting himself to procure the account in question at the earliest possible moment; but the bonourable gentleman was mistaken if he supposed its immediate production to be matter of facility. The committee of public accounts last year had recommended the production of two descriptions of return — that already upon the table, and that moved for by the honourable gentleman; but the committee, in terms, observed that the second return (that now called for) must take, from the nature of it, more time to make out. right honourable gentleman went on to say, that on Friday next he should be prepared to open the measures which ministers meant to recommend for the adoption of parliament. His statement would be brought forward in such a form as would not require him to call upon the house for any specific vote on the night upon which he introduced it.

Mr. Hume said, that if the right honourable gentleman had been a member of the committee of public accounts, he would have known that its decisions had been far from unanimous. The account now before the house amounted in fact to, nothing. The house might as well. propose to judge of the Duke of Bedford's income by looking at his banker's book, as of the revenue of the country from the return upon the table. He wished the. right honourable gentleman to postpone his exposition until after the account moved for was procured.

Sir H. Parnell said a few words.
Mr. Maberly said, he concurred with his honourable friend (Mr. Hume) in hoping that the right honourable the Chancellor of the Exchequer would postpone his statement until the house was in a condition to form a judgment upon it. He begged to know if he had rightly understood the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that on bringing forward his propositions, he should move no resolution upon them until a subsequent day?

The Chancellor of the Exchequer repeated, that he should not propose any vote on Friday which would pledge the house to any part of the statement he brought forward.

The return was then ordered to be produced.

Dr. Lushington presented a petition from the archdeacon and clergy of Bath, praying for amendment in the marriage act.

Mr. Hume, seeing in the Gazette the appointment of Lord Clanwilliam to a high diplomatic station, in the room of Mr. Rose, begged to know whether the re-

moval

moval of the latter gentleman would put the country to the expense of a pension? He also wished to ask whether the pension of Sir B. Bloomfield would merge in his new allowance as ambassador.

Mr. Canning replied to the first of Mr. Hume's questions decidedly in the negative; to the last, that it was not usual for a pension to merge in such new appointment.

The marriage act amendment bill was read a second time.— Committed for Friday fortnight.

The report of the committee of

supply being brought up,

Sir Thomas Lethbridge begged to say a few words. Not finding so far, any intimation from government of its intention to bring forward measures for the relief of the agricultural interest, he wished to put one or two questions to the ministers of the crown. commenting upon the unreasonableness of those arrangements which threw the tithes, the poor's rate, and the cost of criminal prosecutions almost entirely upon the landed property, the honourable baronet concluded, by asking whether government had measures in contemplation for the relief of the agricultural interest?

Mr. Canning, in a speech of some length, assured the hon. baronet that his majesty's ministers not only sympathized with, but anxiously desired to alleviate the sufferings of the agricultural interest; but that yet they had been unable to devise any effectual remedy. If the honourable baronet had one to offer, they and the house would attend to it.

Mr. Curven felt dissatisfied with the determination of ministers, that no direct relief could be

afforded; he thought all the property of the country (funded property) should be equally rated for

the poor.

Mr. Robertson thought the borrowing money in an ill-judged manner, as far as the rate of interest was concerned, was the true cause of the present misery of the country, and said it was his intention to submit a motion to the house, to reduce the burden arising from the national debt, which he would then more fully explain.

The report was then agreed to.

A new writ was ordered for the borough of Bossiney, in the reom of Sir C. Domville, who had accepted the Chiltern Hundreds.

Mr. H. Hutchinson, seeing an hon. gent. (Mr. W. Wynn) in his place, wished to ask him, whether his learned friend (Mr. Plunkett) persevered in his intention to bring the Catholic question before the house on the 20th instant, as he had heard some reports to the contrary?

Mr. W. Wynn had no hesitation in stating, that his learned friend would bring the question forward

on that day.

Mr. Hume gave notice, that he would on Monday next submit a motion to the house on the subject of the lieutenant-generalship of the ordnance.—Adjourned.

House of Lords, Feb. 17.—Lord Redesdale presented a petition from the traders of Witham, praying for an act for the more speedy recovery

of small debts.

The Marquis of Lanedown said he held in his hand a petition from the inhabitants of Shepton Mallett, praying the repeal of the insolvent debtors' act.

The Earl of Tankerville presented a petition from certain persons, complaining of that part of the

marriage

marriage act which abolished peculiar jurisdictions.

Lord Ellenborough took the opportunity of the presentation of this petition, to express his regret that so much inconvenience should have resulted as the number of petitions presented testified. could not conceive how the house was to do its duty to the public if those who possessed knowledge on any particular subject did not give their opinions to the house.

Lord Stowell said, he was not at all aware of the number of these peculiars: he entirely concurred in the propriety of restoring them, as they had been inadvertently

taken away.

The Earl of Shaftesbury presented a petition from certain persons residing at Leicester, complaining of that clause of the marriage, act abolishing the peculiar jurisdictions.

Lord Ellenborough said, he would wish to understand whether the noble and learned lord meant, or not, to oppose the re-establishment

of these jurisdictions.

Ld. Stowell replied, certainly not, The Earl of Liverpool said, undoubtedly the case of these jurisdictions was a very strong one, but he should wish to reserve his opinion to a more advanced stage of the discussion.

Lord Ellenborough observed, that in fact these were immemorial jurisdictions, taken away without

any grievance alleged.

Lord Redesdale said, he should have called the attention of the house to this subject, but his reason for abstaining was a thorough conviction that whatever might be the decision of the house, it was not for the general benefit that some of the jurisdictions should re-He could not understand main.

no what pretence laymen should exercise an episcopal jurisdiction. In some instances, so far from being immemorial, they originated but since the reformation, and in the act of parliament for abolishing the religious houses.

The Lord Chancellor said, it was for the consideration of the house now, whether it would not be useful that whatever alterations were to be made, the whole of the law on the subject of marriage should be embodied in one act. It would be very desirable that the doubt expressed by the noble and learned lord (Redesdale) should be cleared He would venture to state up. to their lordships, that many persons were not aware that the power of granting licences was taken away. If they had continued in ignorance of the law to grant licences, these parties might have been married under licences granted by persons not duly authorized by law. If cases of that sort had occurred, and there were persons who had involved themselves in such consequences through ignorance of the law, he could not hesitate to make all those marriages good; but it was not necessary to discuss those points if such a committee were appointed as he thought would be.

The Archbishop of Canterbury said, he certainly had heard it stated, that it would be convenient if the number of surrogates should be cut down, and it was so done, leaving the appointments to the bishops alone. He was not aware of any advantage or additional security that was derived from the alteration; and if there were not, the objection was quite sufficient that it interfered with the vested

rights of individuals.

Lord

Lord Stowell then moved that a committee be appointed to take into consideration the present state of the law relative to marriage, and to report thereon.

Lord Ellenborough said, he had the greatest pleasure in seconding

the motion.

Lord Stowell said, he bowed to the decision of the house on the re-

trospective clauses.

Lord Ellenborough said, he gave full notice to the noble lord that he would give every opposition in his power to the detestable proposition of the nullity of marriage, and maintain the principle of the indissolubility of marriage.

The Earl of Westmorland concurred in the sentiments expressed by the noble lord (Ellenborough).

The Lord Chancellor said, it would be recollected by the house, that nobody opposed the retrospective clause more than he did. With respect to the prospective clause, though he trusted the committee would pay attention to the opinion of the house, expressed in the last session of parliament; yet there were some parts of that clause which it might be well to reconsider.

The committee was then appointed. Among the members were the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Chancellor, the Bishops of London and Exeter, the Marquis of Lansdown, Lord Holland, Lord Ellenborough, the Earl of Westmorland, the Earl of Shaftesbury, and Lord Grosvenor.

Lord Ellenborough then moved that the second reading of the marriage actamendment bill should be postponed for a fortnight.—Agreed to.

Lord Suffield presented a petition which he said was signed by

two hundred of the most respectable inhabitants of the hundred of North Harpham in Norfolk. petitioners prayed for the repeal of the malt-tax, and a reformation in the representation of the people in parliament, as that alone could be effectual in redressing their grievances. He himself would not despair of that reform taking place, and should give it support whenever it was brought forward. The petitions were then read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Earl of Westmorland presented a petition from certain persons complaining of the marriage act.—Ordered to lie on the table.

The Marquis of Lansdown rose to take the present opportunity of putting a question to the noble earl opposite. He thought it quite opportune, when a petition was presented, stating a wide-spreading distress which pervaded large classes of the people of this country, that no time should be lost in resorting for their relief to every source from which relief could fairly be drawn. It was known that in many instances during the last war, large sums of money had been advanced by this country, by way of loan and otherwise, to some of the different governments of Europe—sums which, he feared, had been in several instances most lavishly and inadvertently, if not unfortunately expended. There was one, however, of these large pecuniary advances, which upon every principle of honour and justice ought to be repaid to this country. Indeed, in consequence of some previous proceedings in parliament respecting it, repeated assurance had been made by one of his majesty's ministers, that the government

government had turned their serious attention to the matter, and that negotiations were actually carrying on at that time for the repayment of the particular debt : he alluded to what was commonly called the Austrian loan. Previous to the late Congress at Verona, it was said, that at that meeting it was intended to make a formal demand for the settlement of that loan, but nothing farther had transpired upon the subject. Was the noble earl opposite, now that the Congress of Verona had been for some months dispersed, prepared to communicate whether any, and what arrangement had been made for the repayment of this large debt from Austria to Great Britain? It was time for them to know what had been done respecting it, or whether any payment had been promised of a debt so justly due, and the amount of which was at this time so much wanted by the people from whose pockets it had been advanced. It would, at all events, be some satisfaction for the British public to know that the amount was not likely to be employed on the continent in prosecuting designs now most unwisely and unworthily conducting, and upon the policy of which the sense of the people of this country had been most decidedly and unequivocally expressed.

The Earl of Liverpool said, he could assure the noble Marquis that his majesty's government had urged upon the court of Vienna the repayment of the debt, and that the principle of the debt had been acknowledged, and also the principle of liquidation; he hoped he should soon be able to state the particular nature of the ar-

rangement

After some farther conversation the house adjourned.

House of Commons, Feb. 17.—
Petitions were presented against the debtors' act—the marriage act—for parliamentary reform—upon the subject of agricultural distress—and for a commutation of tithes.

Mr. Searlett took the cethe and

Mr. Scarlett took the oaths and his seat.

Sir G. Clerk gave notice, that in a committee of supply, on Friday, he would move for a vote of seameu.

Mr. Grenfell gave notice of a motion for to-morrow, for accounts of monies paid to the Bank for what was called managing the public debt.

Sir H. Parnell gave notice of a motion for papers regarding the expenses of Holyhead harbour, light houses, &c.

Mr. Curteis laid upon the table a petition from the hop-planters of the parish of Burwash, Sussex, and moved for an account of the duty paid on hops of the growth of 1822, distinguishing the districts.

Mr. Abercromby renewed his motion of last session for copies of the proceedings at Glasgow in the case of Borthwick, and of the authority under which the clerk of the Court of Justiciary granted the concourse of the lord advocate of Scotland.

Lord Althorp gave notice, that he should move on Thursday next to repeal the foreign enlistment bill.

The house went into a committee of supply, when the Chancellor of the Exchequer moved, that 34,000,000l. should be granted for the purpose of paying off exchequer bills, issued between January 1822 1822 and 1825. That 12,000,000/. should be granted for certain supplies of 1822; and 144,000/. to pay off exchequer bills advanced to the commissioners for building churches, between January 1822 and 1823.

The house then resumed: the report was brought up, and ordered to be received to-morrow.

The indemnity bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed to-morrow.

The American and West India trade bill was read a second time: to be committed to-morrow.

Mr. Hume rose to move for an account of the number of distributors of stamps in Great Britain, the system on which they have been severally appointed, together with a return of all the profits and emoluments which they received, and the remittances made by them for the year ending the 5th of January 1823."—Agreed to.

Mr. Hume said, he rose to move for a return, to the production of which he conceived there could be no objection,—namely, an account of the allowance of poundage which was made to each of the clerks of the commissioners of land-tax. The amount of land-tax was near 2,000,000l.; of that between 8 and 900,000l. had been redeemed; but the clerks still continued to receive a poundage on that portion which had been so liquidated.—Ordered.

Mr. Hume wished to move for a paper relative to the receiversgeneral of the land-tax, which had been laid on the table on Friday.

The paper was then ordered to be printed, and the house adjourned.

House of Lords, Feb. 18.—On

the motion of the Earl of Shafterbury, it was ordered that no petition for private bills should be received after the 24th of March, and no report of the judges on private bills should be received after the 22d of April.

A person from the treasury presented certain annual accounts.

Adjourned till to-morrow.

House of Commons, Feb. 18.— Petitions were presented against the insolvent debtors' act.

Mr. Huskisson and Mr. Arbuthnot took the oaths and their seats.

On the motion of Colonel Skeffington, two circulars, by Mr. Goulburn, dated in June and November, 1822, and a copy of a remonstrance from the colonels, &c. of militia, together with an account of the effective strength of the Irish militia staff, were ordered to be laid before the house.

Lord Althorp moved for a select committee to inquire into the mode in which debts amounting to less than 15L were recovered in England and Wales.

Mr. Warre seconded the metion.
The committee was then appointed.

Mr. Goulburn gave notice, that on the 6th of March he should bring forward a proposition for the commutation of tithe in Ireland.

Mr. Goulburn moved for leave to bring in a bill to reduce the staff of the Irish militia.—Leave was given to bring in the bill.

Mr. Grenfell rose to make the same motion which he had been in the habit of making annually for some years past, as to the balances suffered to lie in the hands of the Bank of England. For a great many years—too many, he was sorry to say—the average

balance in the coffers of the Bank had not been less than 11,000,000/. or 12,000,000/. He felt pleasure in stating, that the enormous baleace of 11,000,000/. was now reduced to between \$,000,000% and 4.000,000l.; but still he should submit that it was needlessly large, and that so large a sum as 4,000,000L of money ought not to be let lie unproductive to the He denied that there country. could be any difficulty in making the balances available to the public. He therefore moved for an account of the balances derived from the various branches of the public revenue in the Bank of England, on the 1st and 15th days of each month in the year 1822, together with the average balances for the whole year.

The motions were then severally agreed to, including a return of the various public balances in the hands of the Bank, and of the receiver-general of the Court of Chancery; stating the average amount on the 1st and 15th of every month, in the year 1822; the money paid for the management of the public debt for the year 1822; an account of the application of 4000l., charged by the Bank for household expenses; an account of the sum of 1898l. paid to the Bank under the denomination of charges of management for South Sea stock; a return of the aggregate amount of bank notes in circulation, in the year 1822; a return of the highest and lowest amount of bank notes of each denomination, in circulation, on the 1st of each month in the year 1822, &c.

Lord A. Hamilton stated, that he would to-morrow revive a notice

of motion which he had given in July last, relative to the magistracy of Scotland.

The resolutions of supply were

then read, and agreed to.

Mr. Hume gave notice, that he would on Monday next move an address for a copy of the correspondence which had taken place between the states of Jersey and his majesty's counsel, respecting the staff of the militia, and the expense of clothing the same. The honourable gentleman also gave notice, that he would on the same day move for a return of persons who have been placed on half-pay as majors of brigade in Ireland.

The indemnity bill went through a committee.—Report to-morrow.

The West India and American colonies trade bill went through a committee.—Report to-morrow.

Dr. Phillimore brought in a bill for the more speedy reduction of the number of sergeants, corporals, and drummers, in the Irish militia.—Read the first time, and ordered to be read a second time this day se'nnight, and to be printed.

Mr. W. Lamb moved for a return of the number of vessels which have entered into, and cleared out of the port of Dublin, and the amount of port duties and fees paid by them for the last three years, distinguishing the number and charge in each year.—Ordered.

He also moved for a return of all vessels in the coal-trade, which had entered into, and cleared out from, the port of Dublin, with all dues and fees charged thereon for the same period.—Ordered.—Adjourned.

House of Lords, Feb. 19.—Petitions were presented against the marriage marriage act, the insolvent debtors' act, and for an act to recover small debts.

The Bishop of Choster hoped the committee now sitting on the marriage act would see the importance of allowing marriages to be solemnized in chapels.

The Archbishop of Canterbury said, he held in his hand a bill for legalizing certain marriages which had taken place under licences granted by surrogates after the passing of the late marriage act, and which act had deprived them of their jurisdiction; but from the rapidity with which it had been brought into operation, the surrogates in distant parts of the country were not aware of the manner in which their jurisdiction was affected.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, Feb 19.—
Petitions were presented from the hop-planters of a parish in Sussex—against the Jesuits in Ireland—against the salt-tax in Ireland—or reform in parliament—against the

insolvent debtors' act.

On the motion of Mr. Ricardo, an account was ordered of the quantity of gold imported, and of the amount of gold monies coined at the Mint, from January 1822, to January 1823.

On the motion of Mr. Robertson, an account was ordered of the quantity of sugar imported by the East India Company from Madras and Bengal to the latest period.

A debate of very considerable length and animation was carried on upon the subject of the ordnance supplies; particularly with reference to the appointment of lieut.-gen. of the ordnance, which Mr. Hume moved was inconsistent with the recommendations of the commis-

sion of military inquiry, with the professions of economy from the throne, and without due consideration for the state of the country, in which he was supported by Mr. J. Williams and Mr. Hutchisson, and opposed by Mr. Ward and Mr. Canning.

The house then divided upon Mr. Hume's motion.—Noes, 200—

Ayes, 73.—Majority 123.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the house adjourned.

House of Lords, Feb. 20.—Petitions were presented against the insolvent debtors' act.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, Feb. 20.—Petitions were presented against the insolvent debtors' act—the general turnpike act—the marriage act—the window tax—for relief under agricultural distress, and complaining of the contracted state of the water-way at London Bridge.

Lord John Russell, in bringing forward his motion upon the rights of borough electors, declared, that be should have contented himself with merely naming the return he wanted, but for an intimation, which something surprised him, that his application was to be resisted. As a simple motion, however, for an account of the number of voters in each borough and city. with the charter under which its right of election was claimed—as such a motion was to be opposed by the gentlemen on the other side. he had no choice but to state, briefly, the grounds upon which he sustained it; which he stated to be, that similar documents had been furnished in other cases, that they might be easily procured, and that it became every one in the house, whether he opposed reform or not,

to conceal nothing, but discuss upon open grounds. He therefore moved, that a committee be appointed by the house to ascertain the right of voting, and the number of voters sending members to parliament in every city and borough of England and Wales. The nable lord sat down amidst loud cheers.

Lord Normanby, we believe, seconded the motion.

Mr. Canning opposed the motion, and thought much evil and inconvenience might arise from the production of the charters of the several boroughs.

Lord J. Russell said, he did not mean to call for the production of the charters; the right hon. gent. had misunderstood him, if he supposed that was one of the objects of his motion.

Mr. Canning was at a loss, then, to know what the noble lord really proposed to gain by his motion. The right was in most instances contained in the charters, and, -unless he had strangely forgotten, when the noble lord gave notice of his motion some nights ago, the subject of the charters had been particularly put forward. In that notice, which he then held in his hand, the return of the charters had been specifically mentioned, together with the number of voters. If he meant, however, now to limit the power of the committee, and not to give them authority to inspect the charters, how would the .result of their investigation be more satisfactory than the information already in the possession of the neble lord? He objected to the motion, first, for the main reason he had stated, that to grant it would be injuriously to expose the charters of the many boroughs in

the kingdom; secondly, because the appointment of such a committee would have the effect of raising a prejudice very far beyond what the noble lord in perfect candour stated to be his intention, but what in his judgment he knew, and the right honourable secretary knew, must be its result; because the house, in granting it, would mainly decide on that question which the noble lord and himself had concurred in keeping out of sight; and because, lastly, whatever benefit he could derive from it, he already had, as far as the concessions he had then made could extend. He disclaimed any intention, by his refusal to coincide with the present motion, of throwing obstacles in the way of the promised question. When that came, he should meet it with candour, and without, the noble lord would believe, any other hostility than that he felt to the principle on which it was founded.

After some farther debate, in which Mr. Abercromby, Mr. Peel, Mr. Creevey, and Lord Milton engaged,

The bouse divided, when there appeared—for the motion 90—against it 128—majority 38.

The indemnity bill, and the West India and American colonies trade bill, were severally read the third time, and passed.

Mr. W. Smith moved for a return of the amount of duties paid from the 5th of January 1821, to the 5th of January 1822, on hard and soft soap; together with the amount of drawback on each of those articles exported; and also the amount of drawback on soft soap used in the manufacture of woullen goods. Ordered. — Adjourned.

House

House of Commons, Feb. 21.—Petitions were presented against the marriage act—the turapike act—the corn laws—the importation of foreign corn—the hop duties—the insolvent debtors' bill—the hawkers' and pedlars' act—the leather tax—and complaining of injury received from the resumption of cash payments.

Mr. Curteis moved for the quantity of spirits distilled in Ireland sinds 1820, the quantity consumed there and the quantity exported—the annual accounts of the West India dock company—the 19th report of the commissioners of Carastic claims—a return of the number of persons in the Surrey county gaol—a return of the number of prisoners for debt in the King's Bench.

Leave was given to bring in a bill to light thecity of Dublin with gas.

A new writ was ordered for Reigate in the room of the bon. J. S. Cox.

Sir John Osborn meved that the house should resolve itself into a committee of supply, and that the navy estimates should be referred to such committee. He meant to propose a vote of 25,000 seamen for the current year, being 4000 more than was deemed necessary in the last year. In consequence of the disturbed state of the world, particularly as related to the West Indian seas and the Mediterranean, it had been deemed necessary that an additional force should be added to the navy, and it was considered that 4000 men would be sufficient for every purpose. There was also an increase of the wages above the rate of the last year, and there was an additional charge of 8000l., in consequence of the charge for the coast blockade, formerly paid by the treasury, being no longer

charged to that department: 21. 7s. 6d. per lead per month was, on estimate, found to be the smallest sum which could be paid. The wear and tear charge had been reduced from 21. 10s. to 15s. per head; and the charge for artisans' wages had been transferred to the ordinary estimates. He would not trouble the house at any greater length on the subject, but should move that 25,000 men be employed in the sea service for thirteen lunar months, including 6700 marines.

After a few words from Mr. Brougham and Mr. Canning,

The committee voted 455,000*l*. for the pay of seamen at 1*l*. 8s. per man, per lunar month; 243,750*l*. for wear and tear; and 81,250*l*. ordinaries for the sea service.

The house then resumed, and the chairman reported progress.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved the order of the day for the house resolving itself into a committee of the whole house to consider farther of the ways and means.

The house having resolved itself into the committee,

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, after a few introductory observations, said his course would be, in the first place, to lay before the committee the actual state of the revenue during the last year; the estimate which might be formed of the revenue for the present year: the mode in which he would recommend to parliament the application of the surplus of that revenue; and lastly, having stated these propositions without remark or argument, he would make such observations as might appear to him necessary, to explain or sup-

port

port any of them. The first statement he had to make was the amount of the revenue of last year, the expenditure for that year, and the extent to which the revenue exceeded the expenditure. statement was to be found in a paper which had been already laid before the house; and with respect to which, it was not necessary to do more then merely to repeat the figures, and to refer to the document. It appeared that the revenue of last year amounted to 54,414,650/. The expenditure was 49,449,131/. The surplus of the revenue consequently was **4,965**,519*l*. The next thing to which he came was an estimate of the revenue that might fairly be expected to arise from the present year, the expenditure which his majesty's government proposed to provide for, and the surplus of revenue over expenditure. estimate which he formed (and he would by and by explain the ground on which he proceeded in forming it) was, that the revenue of the current year (after deducting all that it might be expected to lose, in consequence of the full operation of the reduction of taxes during the last year, and adding to it the amount that would be received from the commissioners of half-pay and pensions) would produce 57,096,9881. of which he calculated that 52,246,988/. would be derived from the ordinary revenue, and the remainder from the money to be advanced by the commissioners of half-pay The total expenditure pensions. which he counted on would amount to 49,852,7861.; and the estimate might be calculated for the occasion in this way;

Total charge of funded debt for the present year, interest of long an-nuities, management, and clarges of

muides, management, and charges of that kind

Payments to be made to the com-missioners of half pay

Other charges on the consolidated fund, including civil list, pensions, and different items of that description

Total interest of exchequer bills

Estimate for the army

Estimate for the mey

Estimate for the ordinance

Miscellaneous services

2,800,000 2,500,000 1,900,000 7,362,000 5,442,000 Miscellaneous services .....

1,492,000

28,124,786

The total amounting to .... 49,852,786

Of which 33,436,000*l.* were permanent charges, and the remaining 16,416,786l. came within the regular supplies of the year.

result, then, was this-Taking the revenue at ..... And the estimated expenditure at He calculated on a surplus of .. 7,244,202

The next point he had to state was the mode which appeared to his majesty's government most expedient for the application of that surplus. What he meant to propose was, that the larger proportion, amounting in round numbers to 5,000,000l., should be used: on the principle which parliament. had already recognized for the reduction of the debt, and the remaining 2,000,000l. should be applied to the remission of taxes. The relief would chiefly be granted under the head of " assessed taxes :" and he would presently explain, most minutely, the particular manner in which he proposed to apportion the contemplated reduction. Having thus noticed - first, the state of the revenue for last year, with the surplus; secondly, the estimate of the revenue, expenditure, and surplus, for the present year; and thirdly, the mode in which he proposed to deal with that surplus: he would next proceed to address himself to the committee, for the purpose of giving such explanations, and making such observations, as appeared material to him

for the consideration of these questions. In the first place, he would call to the recollection of the committee that part of his majesty's speech from the throne, in which, referring to the state of the revenue last year, his Majesty had declared " that it exceeded his expectation;" and he conceived he should be able to prove to the committee, in the most satisfactory manner, that ministers were perfectly justified in placing those words in his Majesty's mouth; for though it appeared from the papers on the table, that the surplus did not amount to 5,000,000l., yet it was very material that they should consider what that revenue and surplus would have been, if, during the course of last year, a very important financial operation had not taken place, which in the first instance must have had the effect of most materially reducing the revenue, while it was not accompanied by a contemporaneous reduction of expense. In the early part of last year, an estimate of the probable amount of revenue and expenditure for the year 1822 was laid before the house, from which it appeared that there might arise a surplus of 5,280,000*l*., or thereabouts, if the rate of taxation were continued to the same extent as in the preceding year. But the committee would call to mind, that not long after that paper had been laid before parliament, a noble lord, to whom he could not allude without experiencing feelings which perhaps he ought to suppress, stated that his Majesty's government had devised a mode by which the burdens of the public might in some degree be alleviated. That noble lord informed the house, that it was the intention of his Mujesty's

government to propose (and they flattered themselves that they would be able to propose it successfully) a very important plan, of which the effect would be, on the one hand, to diminish the expenses of the country, and on the other. to give to parliament the opportunity of reducing a considerable partion of taxation. The plan to which the noble lord alluded was the reduction of the 5 per cents. It was calculated that the loss to the revenue by the diminution of the malt-tax would be 1,400,000*l.*; and that the gain to the public by the reduction of the 5 per cents. would be sufficient to balance that sum. But it was obvious, that while on the one hand the reduction of taxation operated immediately, the reduction of expenditure could not, on the other, be contemporaneous with it. The reduction of the malt-tax took effect from the 5th of April, 1822. but the interest of the 5 per cents. continued to be paid to the 5th of July last; so that there could not be, up to that time, any saving to counterbalance the diminution of revenue. The diminution which the revenue sustained in the course of the last year, in consequence of the repeal of a portion of the malt-tax, exclusive of the sum lost on the stock in hand, was, 1,500,000l. There were other points also which reduced the receipts, without there being, at the moment, any corresponding reduction of expense. The result was, that the total loss sustained by the revenue last year was not less than 1,700,000l. If, therefore, no such reduction of taxation had occurred, the committee must observe that the surplus of last year, instead of being under 5,0**00,**000/.

5,000,000L, would have considerably exceeded 6,500,000%; and therefore he was justified in saying, that his majesty stated nothing that was not literally consistent with the fact, when he declared "that the revenue of last year had considerably exceeded his expectations." Now, let it not be supposed, in showing what would have been the result if no reduction of taxes had taken place, that he viewed the diminution of the public burdens with the slightest regret. He was far from entertaining any such feeling. On the contrary, he thought the reduction was wise, and he felt the propriety of extending it further. But he must say, that it was utterly impossible that any benefit which such reduction could produce, could have the effect, by causing a greater consumption, or in any other way, of increasing the remainder of the taxes to the amount of the portion which had been remitted. The next point to which he would call the attention of the committee, was the ground on which he estimated the produce of the revenue for the present year. He thought, under all the circumstances which at present existed, he was entitled to assume that, allowing for the diminution of the receipt of last year, which would also certainly accrue in the present year, the revenue at the end of 1823 would, without exaggeration, be equal to the revenue of 1822. That was his firm conviction. He estimated the probable amount of customs this year at 10,500,000l. During the last year, the receipt amounted to 10,662,000/.; but he had to deduct from that sum the additional reduction which would fall on the 1.823.

customs revenue this year, from the repeal of the whole of the tonnage duty, amounting to 160,000%. The excise of last year was 27.271.6681. He had already explained to the committee, that by the operation of the reduction of last year, which applied to malt, leather, and in a certain degree to salt, (for though the diminution of the salt-tax did not take effect till the present year, yet the demand for that article must have been lessened in consequence of the dealers waiting to take advantage of the alteration of price) the revenue was considerably affected; yet, notwithstanding the reductions to which he had alluded, the total amount of the revenue of excise for 1822 was little short of 27,272,000i. Deducting, however, the whole amount of loss which the revenue might be expected to sustain from the reduction of duties which was last year proposed, he thought he should be justified in taking the total excise revenue at 26,000.000/. amount of stamp duties he would take at 6,600,000l. or something The post-office he would less. set down at 1,400,000l., being 28,000% less than last year. had no doubt, however, that the post-office revenue for 1823 would fully equal the amount of last year, but he did not wish to hazard the possibility of overrating any item. The assessed taxes and landtax last year produced 7,217,969/. It would be recollected, that in the course of last year the window and hearth tax in Ireland had been totally abolished; therefore, towards the termination of that year, the revenue sustained a certain portion of loss. The entire amount of those taxes must be deducted in the

the present year, and therefore he would take the assessed taxes and land tax at 7,100,000*l*.; the amount of the assessed taxes at 5,900,000*l*. and that of the land tax at 1,200,000*l*. There were some smaller items which would produce upwards of 600,000*l*. The result was, that he felt himself justified in assuming, that the ordinary revenue would produce 52,200,000*l*. The revenue, at one view, stood thus —

Cnstoms Excise Stamps Post-office Awarsted taxes and isud tax Sundries	10,500,000 26 000,000 6.600,000 1,400,000 7,100,000 600,000
Total	56.900,000

He had thus ventured to form a calculation founded upon the actual receipt of these several branches of the public revenue during the current year, and that calculation, be thought, fully justified him in the anticipations he had formed respecting its prospective operation: and it was true, that under all the several heads which he had enumerated, the receipts of the last year had exceeded those of any preceding year. But when they looked at all the circumstances under which that excess took place, he felt, and he trusted the committee would feel with him. that he was not too sanguine in entertaining a confident opinion that the revenue would not merely continue for the current year upon the same scale of improvement as the last, but that it would continue to evince a still greater progressive increase, and that the amount would accumulate at least in equal This belief he entertained with the utmost confidence; he entertained it the more sanguinely, when he looked towards the great

and extensive regions now opening. to British commerce in almost every quarter of the globe---when he found arising in Great Britain, and, because it arose there, adopted and acting upon in other countries, a new and improved principle, which emancipated commerce from the embarrassing shackles with which antiquated notions had so long incumbered it—a new principle, which he was happy to say, during the short time it had been acted upon, had, both in this and in other countries which naturally looked up to Great Britain for examples of commercial policy, most essentially contributed to the real interests of commerce in every quarter of the globe. He had always thought that the broad and just principle of policy was that which, in its application, rendered commerce mutually advantageous to all who were engaged in it: to be effective it must be reciprocal, one party benefiting by the demand, another equally by the consumption, and each interested in the well-doing of the other. anticipation was the more fixed and gratifying when he found, that in all those articles of commerce which this country wanted, and others were in a condition to supply, there was a steady increase of revenue and consumption, profitable to all parties and essential to the state. When he coupled these facts with what he had already said of the opening and extending markets, which were becoming available to England from the other quarters of the world, and affording anticipations of great and gradual extension,by the way, not the less valuable because they were gradual, - it was not too much for him to indulge

dulge in the most flattering prospects. They had seen, he might exclaim, a bright morn arising upon their horizon, and might anticipate the broad sunshine of a meridian sky. Turning now from foreign commerce, if he adverted to the operation of domestic consumption, as demonstrated by the unequivocal test of the excise, he had there again to lay before the committee an equally bright picture—he had to declare the same satisfaction at seeing those facts which vindicated the increased means of consumption of the people at home, and which, in despite of those partial and muchto-be-regretted distresses that pervaded particular parts of the country, and which pressed upon particular classes, still showed beyoud a doubt a state of things from which the clearest deduction arose in favour of the increased ease, comfort, and happiness of the people generally. It appeared (and this demonstrated what he had deduced) by the returns of the quantity of articles charged to the excise last year, that in every branch of general importance a great increase of consumption bad arisen as compared with the average of the three preceding years; for instance, upon beer, bricks, candles, hides, glass, malt, paper, printed goods, salt, soup, starch, British spirits, foreign tea, tobacco, and such articles of general useupon every one of these essential articles, upon which he might say the comfort of the people so essentially depended, there was a palpable increase during the last year, over and above the three preceding years. Was it unreasonable, when such a fact was apparent, to anticipate the continuance of that increase during the ourrent year? Was he too sanguine in estimating the same consumption? Was it no fair ground of argument, when he saw the general branches of commerce expanding, to reason that the improvement of one class must act beneficially upon another, and co-operate to produce mutual advantage? He might rely upon the paper which he held in his hand (the schedule of the comparative consumption), as sufficient proof, if they looked at the great mass of the people, of the essential improvement which had taken place in their condition—if they looked at the actual situation of the country internally in all its great branches of industry, and compared it with what it had been but three or four years ago, there was the utmost reason for exultation. When distress had unfortunately existed, disquietude, disorder, outrage, even sedition itself. unfortunately appeared. Where, now, were all those symptoms of disorganization? They had vanished, and in their places were found order, tranquillity, peace, happiness, and content. This very circumstance alone of the change of feeling in the people in various parts of the country, within years so few, was the most unequivocal demonstration of the improved condition of the people—a demonstration in itself striking, and most gratifying in a moral point of view; and from it be derived, in common with all good men, the infinite consolation of the fixed and honest character of the people; for it clearly established this-that when and where different feelings and habits arose among the people, distress and privation were alone the influential causes; but that there **F 2** 

there was at bottom something so substantially patriotic in the character of the people, so sincere and deep-rooted an attachment to the genuine principles of the constitution, that when the galling pressure of distress was removed from the general mass, the great promoting cause of disquietude disappeared. It was this knowledge of the real character of the people that always induced him with deep regret to concur in measures of coercive severity directed against any portion of them, when temimperiously porary aberrations called for an increased activity of the law. Let them, in estimating the improved condition of the people generally, turn their eyes to another matter, not large, indeed, as compared with the whole property of the country, but still great in its bearing upon the general interest - he alluded to the saving banks. During the last year there had been a very considerable addition to their accumulation, both in the number of centributors, and in the amount of the deposits. It was impossible to advert to these institutions without feeling that they were the greatest blessings which had been conferred upon the people of late years, and that their success was one of the most unequivocal proofs of the ease, and comfort, and provident disposition of the people. Independent of the circumstances to which he had alluded, and which appeared to him likely to secure a gradual increase of the revenue, there were others to which he wished to allude, as affecting that portion of the revenue which, being received in gross from the public, is diverted in its course, by various causes, from entering the Exchequer in the same aggregate

amount—he alluded to the necessary deductions under the head of charges for collecting the revenue. He believed it would be found practicable in various items, and under various heads of the colto make considerable lection. reductions of this charge of collection. When he made this admission, be wished it to be distinctly understood that a great deal had been already actually done in this respect by his majesty's go-He was most anxious vernment. to demonstrate the progress in that reduction which had been made in the course of the last year; but he was sorry to state, that so soon after the close of the year, it was found impossible to make up the accounts, so as to give with accuracy the amount of what had been done under the head he had mentioned. This impossibility was, he trusted, obvious to all who were acquainted with the manner in which it was necessary to have these accounts made up. He could. however, give a general view of the reduction in the amount of collection which had already been effected, by comparing what it had been during the last four years, and the gradual and steady diminution which the government had en-Taking the customs (a department which, from its constitution, imposed the greater expense in the collection), the expense of the collection was --

Ιo	1818	***********	1,927,6217.
aí	1819		1,951,9914. 1,997,7734.
l R	1800		1,097,773/.
ln	1821		1,060,280/.

showing a progressive diminution from the year 1818 to 1821, which amounted to 258,841l. It might be quite fair in argument for any honourable gentleman to say that enough had not been yet accomplished.

plished. He readily admitted that that was a fair ground for discussion and conflicting argument; but he was nevertheless prepared to assert that what had already been done was at least prima facie proof that the government had not been negligent upon that part of the public business, and had not overlooked the necessity for promoting all practicable reduction in that branch of the general expenditure. As time went on, the nature of their labours would be daily exemplified, and the public would be progressively deriving the advantages necessarily accruing from the able inquiry in which they had embarked: this related to the collection of the revenue of England, but let them turn to that of freland-there, indeed, he was most ready and anxious to declare, not only that so much might be done, but where he would pledge himself that so much should be He recalled the attention of the committee to the appointment of the commissioners two years ago, to inquire into the collection of the revenue in Ireland. At that time nobody objected to the appointment of that committee: true, by some it was ridiculed as a vain attempt-by others undervalued, as little calculated, from a variety of causes, to produce the intended result: but what had been the eventual fact? To the result of the labours of these commissioners he might now confidently appeal. What they had done hitherto was before their country—they had investigated to the bottom the abuses which prevailed in the Irish revenue, and he hoped he might be permitted to add, that the government of this country had not been backward in

evincing the fullest resolution; indeed, he had heard (if it were not irregular to refer to it) the first minister of the crown avow the firm determination of his majesty's government to accede to the recommendation of the commissioners, and give the fullest effect to their labours. In furtherance of that object, he would himself be found ready to bring forward a bill, should the duty of originating it devolve upon him, to give legislative force to their recommendation; or, in the event of the task falling into other hands, he should be found ready to tender his best assistance to make the bill as applicable and comprehensive as the nature of the case required. The necessary operation of such a bill was to reduce expenditure and diminish patronage. Now, it might be said that to the maintenance of these two things he was partial, and, indeed, he might be supposed officially attached to them both. Whatever were his attachment to office, he still could assure the committee that such an imputed disposition—for an imputation upon his character he might be permitted to say he held it to be -would desert him here, he should be found most ready and most anxious to give practical effect to the useful and zealous labours of the commissioners. He then, with reference to the estimated expenditure of the present year, the total of which was estimated at 49,852,7861., repeated the following items which composed a part of that amount: viz.

He was anxious to advert a little

to the state of the branches of the public expenditure which he had just enumerated, and to compare them with the amount of former years; thus adopting a standard of comparison to which it was customary to resort in that house. There was not a more common topic of reproach for the government to endure, than that of cherishing a disinclination to revert to the reductions of former years in many of the branches of the public expenditure: it was his present object to show that such a mode of attack, though inapplicable to the measures of the present government, was neither just nor fair. He was aware that it was a plan of tactics regularly brought to bear upon all administrations in their turn; but surely it ought to be considered by unofficial and irresponsible men, that a discretion must necessarily be left in the breasts of those who guided the helm of the state, with all the responsibility, and in the possession of all the information which necessarily belonged to their situation: it did not follow that a branch of the public expenditure was overcharged and unnecessary, because it was so stated within the walls of parliament—it did not follow that an administration were unreasonably riveted to a particular system, because they did not immediately relinquish it, and adopt that recommended by their political opponents. In fact, nothing was more unfair, nothing was more palpably unjust, than to charge them with indifference to the public burdens, with inattention to salutary admonition, because they did not hasten to adopt this plan and the other plan, in the order in which they were submitted to them: all

governments must make their account in submitting to this species of critical animadversion. It was the tharge upon all governments, and all times, and so it must continue. Without however meaning to provoke any discussion upon details at this moment, and wishing to reserve them for a committee, when they could fight them out with all proper ardour. he thought the fair way of showing the animus of the government was to look at what they had been doing upon a large scale, and then see whether or not they were fairly chargeable with any disinclination to give all practicable attention to a reduction of the public expenditure. For instance, let the committee compare the estimates for the army, the navy, the ordnance, and the miscellaneous, in the present year, and those immediately preceding it; the fact of their desire to promote reduction would be placed beyond all doubt by that comparison. Notwithstanding the late increase in the navy, there would, he knew, be a reduction in the present year, as compared to the last, of 470,000l.; it would have amounted to 600,000% were it not for the increased energies infused into that branch of the national service. But, comparing these branches of the public service in expense at the present time. with the amount in 1821, there would be found a reduction of 1,957,000L; with 1820, a reduction of 2,971,0004; with 1819, a reduction of 2,156,000/.; with 1818, 2,449,000l.; and with the estimate of the committee of finance of 1817, 1,335,000l. When the committee heard this comparative statement of reduction, would they lend their attention to the charge of indifference so often imputed

imputed against the government? He reprobated such an imputation, and when they were charged with not making reductions in every item of the public service, he rebutted and refuted the charge by showing, as he had done, what had already been accomplished by ministers—enough, he thought, to satisfy the committee and the country of their aincere disposition to reduce whenever just and reasonable economy sanctioned the diminution of the public burdens, always considering the maintenance of the national security, the deep and awful responsibility of which was reposed in them; with this additional consideration, -that from their official information they must be considered as possessing means to see a little beyond the surface of things, at least to a greater depth than others who were without the same species of information. And here he could not but say, in allusion to proceedings elsewhere, that the House of Commons had been most unjustly traduced, when they had been charged with supporting ministers in a long and profligate course of improvident expenditure. he to travel into the comparative amount of the miscellaneous expenditure in the same course of years, and into the account of Exchequer bills, the same comparative reduction would be found to pervade them, the same satisfactory result would follow the examination, and the total estimate of the present year, under all the heads of supply, would, as compared with the last year, show a reduction of 971,000l.; and this, he repeated, notwithstanding the increase in the navy, and, as compared with the estimate in the

finance report of 1817, a reduction of 2,671,000l. Having now explained the items of his accounts, and the grounds of the several estimated calculations which he had enumerated, he had to explain his mode of dealing with the surplus of 7,000,000l., which he had already announced to the committee. lle had explained to them that he thought it fitting to the put by 5,000,000%. sinking fund, for the eventual reduction of the debt, and to apply the difference to a reduction of taxation. When the country bad the advantage of a surplus of this nature, there were obviously three principal ways of dealing with it: either to abolish it entirely, and to apply the whole to the reduction of taxes, or to consign it for the reduction of the debt. The third way was to combine the principles of the two former, and give them a conjunctive operation. The last was the principle which the government were prepared to adopt: and he flattered himself it would prove more in accordance with the system already laid down by parliament, and the principles which had previously received their deliberate sanction. were right in what he collected to have been the leading principles which governed the policy of parliament, he could not discover any reason why the government should now depart from that course which had been already so strungly recognized. A proposition, founded upon the first principle, would at once go to the abolition of the sinking fund, and the abandonment of all attempts to decrease progressively the pressure of the public debt-a principle dangerous at all times, but at the present particularly

cularly alarming, for it would involve as a necessary consequence the idea of an indefinite addition to the national debt, without any fixed hope of ultimate adjustment. Let those who would venture to recommend the introduction of such a principle into the policy of the country, consider what may be the duty and necessity of the times. Who could say what may be the nature of the claims which should devolve on the nation?. Who could say what energies they may be called upon to wield in defence of all that was dear and valuable in national honour? Who could say when they may be compelled again to resort to that firm bulwark-the invaluable credit of the country; and was this the time (if ever) when they ought to disturb that which if shaken might lead to the destruction of the country itself? Were they then at such a time to lay down a principle, that in time of peace they would abandon the practice of reducing the debt which they had incurred in time of war? Would they establish a new principle which, in its inevitable consequences, would lead to a revolution in all the property of the country? Suppose they should again be under a necessity of having recourse to loans, how would the country benefit, even in a pecuniary point of view, from this alteration in their policy? Would they not have to pay a higher rate of interest to those who advanced the money, when the latter had reason to know that they never meant to pay off in the time of peace, the debt which they had contracted in time of war? To pay off, did he say? No; not even to attempt to pay off, upon the recognized

principle of progressive reduction. When they knew that the interest of that debt amounted to more than half the expenditure of the country, nobody could conceive its pressure; and it was because he felt it to be a thing which necessarily and inevitably weighed down the country in a heavy degree, that he deemed it indispensable to adopt every practicable mode of reducing its amount. If ever there were a time when it was imperative upon the country to maintain its credit, he thought the present was, from a variety of causes, that period; and the avowal of that time, and the determination to maintain that credit inviolable, ought to be made when they knew that vague and mischievous notions were studiously inculcated, that the people had no remedy for their burdens but the compulsory seizure of a part of the public debt—a seizure involving every character of spoliation—a robbery of one set of people, to relieve another:—he was glad to find that his own sentiments were echoed from every part of the house. If they were once to lay down the principle of never reducing their debt by every just and practicable means, they would at once be giving an impetus to those who pressed for this act of spoliation, to urge on their principles and promote their views. There would then be an end to the character of the country, the moment its legislature acknowledged the principle of not adhering to a system having for its object the reduction of the debt. He would therefore say, that there never was in the history of the country, a moment when so many motives combined to render it imperative upon them to declare their firm

and deliberate and necessary resolution to abide by the plighted In inflexibly faith of the country. adhering to this resolution, it did not follow as a matter of course that the principle which they recognized was intended to be carried to every extent, and that, however great the surplus of the vear should prove, it was to be uniformly and wholly applied to the fund for reduction. It was quite clear that a public debt might, by various means, be reduced too much, as well as too quickly, for the general interests of the state. He could easily anticipate circumstances when it would not only be extremely desirable, but actually necessary, to limit the operation of such a fund, and apply a fair proportion of the surplus to the reduction of taxes. That was the principle which parliament had last year recognized, with a perfect conviction of its wisdom, and with the fullest consistency in that policy to which they had so long adhered. It had often been said that a chancellor of the exchequer became, as it were, in official principle so enamoured with taxes, that he could never be weaned from a fond affection of clinging to them, and that, what he once got in this way, it was difficult afterwards to wring from him. He could assure the committee that whatever affections he might harbour, he was, though new in office, not quite so enamoured with taxes as to wish to retain them with too firm grasp. On the contrary, he freely admitted that it was both necessary and desirable that the country should receive every possible relief which a remission of taxes could confer, and that what had been done last year in that respect had been done wisely and justly: whatever differences they might have entertained as to the extent and manner of such a mode of relief, nobody could deny that reduction of taxes was per se a great relief to a community, and it was upon this conviction that the government were now prepared to act. He would not, after having so long intruded upon them, enter into any laboured reasoning to show why the reduction should be on articles which might be said to be of the nature of direct rather than of indirect consumption. The selection was obvious in itself, and, where the reasons were so many and strong, he might be spared from enumerating them. The taxes to which be meant to call their attention were partly absolute, and partly rated at a per-centage. The assessed taxes were divisible into four heads. In the first were comprised the duties on windows: next came the duties on houses'; thirdly, those on horses, carriages, servants, &c.; and fourthly, those various small items of dogs, armorial bearings, and such like heads of taxation. It was his intention to leave the whole of the last class as it stood, it not appearing to him that there were sufficient grounds for calling for reduction in that quarter. In looking at those other taxes which pressed severely on the different classes of society, upon a fair balance of consideration, he thought there was less ground of complaint of the operation of the house-tax than of others distributed over the same extent. The principal object which he had in view in the reductions which he intended to propose was to afford the utmost possible relief

to the agricultural interest; but being of opinion that the tax upon houses was one which pressed with the least severity upon that important interest, he did not intend to propose any reduction of There were, however, many that. small items of the assessed taxes. which in their operation were very oppressive and inconvenient to individuals, and in their collection exceedingly vexatious, and gave rise to eternal surcharges and disputes. These small items occasioned double the inconvenience that was produced by taxes of larger amount, and caused no inconsiderable expense in their col-He proposed to repeal a great number of these items, and he would state them to the house. The first tax which he would mention was one upon that class of persons who came under the description of male servants occasionally employed. It was obvious that this tax was exceedingly inconvenient. embarrassing, and vexatious, and gave rise to continual disputes, and tended to render the assessed taxes more unpalatable (he would not use a stronger word) than they ought fairly to be, when considered merely with reference to their amount. He intended to repeal this tax entirely: it amounted to about 37,200l. Another class of persons were charged with a tax, who, however, appeared to him to be peculiarly ill-suited for the imposition of any tax - he meant those described as occasional gardeners. The tax had, doubtless, been imposed under the idea that gardening was an object of luxury: but its effect was very frequently to prevent poor people from obtaining employment. If a gentleman were to employ a poor man

to mend a walk or trim a bed in his garden for only one week, he would be under the necessity of The tax was paying the tax. only 10s.—that was not much, to be sure; but persons did not like to make an additional return. He must confess, there was something exceedingly unpleasant in the appearance of that paper which the collector put into one's hand. dividuals had a repugnance placing in the returns the name of an occasional gardener, merely because they had employed some poor man, perhaps from charitable motives, for a few days, in ornamenting their gardens. Believing that the tax upon persons employed as occasional gardeners was unwise, and that it operated to the disadvantage of the poor, he proposed to repeal it altogether. The total amount of the tax was about 19.700l. The next item of taxation which he meant to abolish was that upon the lower class of taxed carts. A petition against that tax had, he believed, been recently presented to the house: and the honourable member for Aberdeen had given notice of his intention to move for a return of its amount. The honourable member should be furnished with the return, which would be the last he would have occasion to call for. upon that subject at least. computed the amount of the tax to be about 93001. There was another tax which he would totally repeal: it was unimportant in its amount, but it fell upon a class of persons whom he did not wish to tax at all, if he could help it; he alluded to the tax of Ss. upon ponies under thirteen hands high. At a time when the government was terribly in want of money, and obliged

obliged to get all it could whip up, the imposition of such a tax might be excused; but now that they were about a bona fide reduction of taxation, it ought not be allowed to continue. The produce of the tax was only 41801. It was also his intention to repeal another tax of equal amount to that which he had just mentioned; it was the tax of Ss. on horses employed by small farmers who happened also to be engaged in trade. The produce of that tax was 6500l. It was obvious the persons by whom it was paid must be poor, and that it must be a great inconvenience to He therefore felt great pleasure in proposing its total repeal. He had now mentioned all the small items of taxation which he intended to repeal altogether. The remaining taxes upon horses, carriages, servants, and other objects, he proposed to reduce 50 per cent. It might, perhaps, be objected that the largest portion of those taxes were paid by persons whose means enabled them to do so with ease, and that they (the taxes) did not operate oppressively upon that class of the community which was most distressed. had certainly endeavoured to consult the advantage of the poor rather than that of the rich in the intended reduction of taxation; but did not think that it was very material whether a tax was paid by one class or by another; the repeal of it would be beneficial so far as it went. That being his opinion, he thought the committee would not object to a reduction of 50 per cent. of the assessed taxes The right honourable generally. gentleman then stated that he intended to effect the following re-

ductions upon the several description of taxes named:--

Upon the lower duties on horses and mules a reduction of 72,500l. would take place. He farther proposed to repeal part of the taxes upon windows. The general principle upon which he would proceed with respect to the window-taxes, was to reduce them generally to the extent of 50 per cent.; but he also intended to repeal altogether the tax upon one description of The committee must windows. be aware that all shops, countinghouses, and buildings of a similar description, which were actually fromdwelling-houses, detached were already exempted from any payments under the head of window taxes. He intended to extend this exemption to the ground-floor windows of all shops, whether attached to dwelling-houses or not. About two years ago, that very subject had been brought under the consideration of the house, and a committee was appointed to inquire into the operation of the window tax, in so far as it affected shop windows. 'The result of the deliberations of that committee was to show that the tax operated very oppressively upon a class of persons who were little able to bear it, namely, the smaller trades-Those tradesmen were obliged to exhibit their goods in their shop-windows, and to maintain a very unequal competition with persons whose shops were moveable, being established in carts or smaller vehicles. The latter class

of tradesmen made a very beautiful show of their wares, and sold them, no doubt, very much to their own advantage, and far be it from him to say, that they did not do so greatly to the advantage of the consumer also. He meant to urge nothing against that mode of carrying on trade, because he thought that people had a right to purchase their commodities at the cheapest possible rate. But it was not fair that itinerant tradesmen should have so great an advantage over the resident tradesmen as they now possessed, in consequence of the operation of the tax upon shop windows, which would therefore be entirely repealed. He estimated the reduction of the taxes upon windows at 1,150,000%, and the total reduction upon the whole of the assessed taxes at 2,233,000%. He had not yet adverted to the assessed taxes of Ireland. That. was a subject of very peculiar im-The manner in which portance. he meant to proceed with respect to the Irish assessed taxes was to repeal them all. He was quite sure that the people of England would not grudge to their poor brethren in Ireland the little advantage which they might obtain over them in being entirely exempted from the assessed taxes. There could be no doubt that the operation of those taxes was infinitely more severe in Ireland than in this country, at least to those persons who are so good as to pay He was afraid that but them. little relief would be afforded to Ireland by the repeal of the taxes; but setting that consideration aside. he was willing to take away all occasion of complaint, and therefore he would carry the repeal into effect. The diminution which the

repeal of the Irish taxes would occasion to the revenue would be perhaps about 100,000%. He would explain the manner in which this diminution might be compensated. The commissioners of inquiry into the collection of the Custom-house duties of Ireland, had suggested that they should be equalized, and he was resolved to act upon that suggestion. He believed he was correct in stating the Irish customhouse duties were at present an expense instead of a benefit to the country. Being upon the subject of Ireland, he might be allowed to say, that it was one in which he felt very great interest. He attributed his feelings upon that point. partly to the circumstance of having at one period of his life passed nearly two years in the countrypartly to the interesting nature of the country-partly to the peculiar constitution of its society thereto the way in which Ireland differs from this country—the causes of which were, doubtless, highly hopourable to the Irish people, although he could not contemplate without pain the consequences which resulted to Ireland from the nature of her social organization. There was no circumstance connected with Ireland, which had ever excited his feelings more powerfully, than the state of her distillery laws. It was well known how very large a portion of the Irish revenue was derived from the duties on spirits; and it was also known how much distress and misery, and how many indescribable evils, had resulted from the manner in which those duties were levied. It was impossible to raise them without employing the army; and the army could not be called into action without affecting the peace

peace of the country. In order to raise those duties, it had been found necessary to make gentlemen who possessed estates in Ireland hunt out, prosecute, and punish those who naturally look up to them for protection; and it not unfrequently happened, that it became the interest of landlords to protect their tenants in the violation of the laws, whilst it was the interest of tenants to act in constant opposition to law. was impossible to conceive an evil more grievous or fatal than such a system. Under its influence all the kindly feelings which ought to unite a people to their government were severed, and mutual distrust supplied their place. There was nothing that could keep the parties together-there was every thing that could perpetuate their separation. He could not, therefore, look at the distillery laws of Ireland without feeling that some alteration of them was required, that would remove the monstrous evil which had grown out of them, and restore to the country, or he should rather say confer upon it (for he was not sure that Ireland had ever yet possessed them) some of those blessings arising out of social order, which the people of this country knew how to estimate because they had long enjoyed them. It was his intention to propose a remedial measure on this important subject, which had already undergone the serious consideration of a right honourable friend of his, and of other gentlemen who formed part of the commission of inquiry upon the revenue of Ireland. I he measure which he would propose would embrace a very great reduction in the amount of the duties on Irish

spirits. It was only an experiment: whether or not it would be successful, God only knew; but he was determined it should have a trial. It might be asked, what would be the effect of such a reduction upon the revenue? was sanguine enough to believe, and he was supported in his opinion by a report which would be laid upon the table of the house in a few days, that the revenue would not, ultimately, be injured by the reduction. But if he even knew that the result would be otherwise. so strongly were his feelings interested in the question, that he would nevertheless try the experiment. He should not think himself justified if he did not make an attempt to remedy an evil which be so much lamented, even if he were certain that by so doing he should defeat his own calculations and enable honourable men to say-" You promised us a surplus which you have not realized." He would expose himself to that kind of treatment rather than not make an effort to remove that which he felt and acknowledged to be an evil. He had now arrived at the conclusion of the statement which he had felt it his duty to submit to the house. The result was, that the country had an increasing revenue, the result of an increasing commerce, -and an increasing consumption within itself. the consequence of increasing ease and comfort among the people. The increasing revenue of the country afforded the government the means of applying a portion of it to the reduction of the debt, and another portion of it to the diminution of taxation; and he believed that in that very diminution of taxation the revenue would find

some compensation. If that was the result of his statement, and if that statement was correct, who could look back to the vast efforts which the country had made-to the dangers which she had surmounted, and the sacrifices which she had made in order to ensure ber capacity to meet those dangers-who, he repeated, could look back to those things and contemplate the prospect of the future which he had taken the liberty to bring before the house, without feelings of veneration and attachment for those institutions which, having for their basis civil and religious liberty, constitute in themselves the unbending support of national glory and prosperity?

Mr. Maberly next spoke: he was of opinion that instead of forming a sinking fund, taxes to the amount of 7,000,000l. should be remitted: he then was about to move the fol-

lowing resolutions, when

The Chairman reminded the hon. member that he could not move

them at present.

Mr. Maberly then said, that if he was precluded from moving, he would take the liberty of reading them.

"1. That by the resolutions woted by this house in the year 1819, it was deemed expedient that an efficient sinking fund should be created, to the amount of 5,000,000.

"2. That, at the time in question, it was agreed unanimously, that the only sinking fund which can be efficient, is that which is produced by a surplus of income over expenditure.

" 8. That as far as can be collected from the papers laid upon the table of the house, there actually exists a sum of about 5,000,000*l*. applicable to the reduction of the national debt.

"4. That in addition to these 5,000,000l., applicable to the reduction of the debt, there is at the disposition of parliament, arising from the increased productiveness of several branches of revenue, and the various plans of reform and economy in the administration of the country proposed to be carried into execution this year, a sum of about 2,200,000l.

"5. That it appears, therefore, that a total sum of 7,200,000l. arising from the abovementioned sources, is applicable to the maintenance of public credit, and to the relief of agricultural or other distress, by remission of taxation.

"6. That although it was determined that the capital stock purchased by the commissioners for the redemption of the national debt, with this efficient sinking fund, should be transferred to their account, it was nevertheless understood, that the interest payable upon stock so purchased, should either determine at the time of purchase, or be paid over and become part of the consolidated fund.

"7. That taking 80l. as the price of 100l. in 3 per cent. consols. stock, it appears that 5,000,000l. of money annually laid out during the space of seven years, would redeem about 43,750,000l. of 3 per cent. annuities; but should we remain at peace, it would redeem a much smaller sum.

"8. That in the year 1798, for the support of public credit, there was passed an act for the redemption and purchase of land-tax, which act from the exorbitant conditions attached to such redemption and purchase, has in a great measure failed in effecting the destined

object.

"9. That, notwithstanding the obstacles thus created, such has been the anxiety of the public to redeem their lands, and to purchase landed securities, that the sum redeemed and purchased amounts to 700,000*l*. and upwards.

"10. That, if so large a proportion of the land-tax has been redeemed and purchased at a sacrifice, in the first instance of 10l., and in the second of 201. per cent. it is but reasonable to conclude that the remaining balance of 1,239,701 l. would be similarly redeemed and purchased if no sacrifice was necessary.

"11. That it appears that 1,239,701l. of land tax, thus redeemed and purchased, and paid for 3 per cent. consolidated annuities, would cancel a sum, in such annuities, of ahout 41,330,000l. being more than the amount that would be purchased by the regular investment of the sinking fund, in stock, for the space of seven years, if we remain at peace.

" 12. That it appears that this method of reducing the debt by no means differs in its substance from that which was adopted by the house in the resolutions of 1819, the essential attributes of both plans being the maintenance of public credit by the diminution of the quantity of debt.

" 13. That, as the mode of redeeming the national debt by redemption and purchase of land tax injures no class of proprietors, and will absorb a quantity of debt nearly equal to that which would be redeemed by an efficient sinking fund of five millions, annually laid out during seven years, it is

expedient to substitute it for the sinking fund adopted in the resolutions of the house of 1819.

"14. That by this substitution there may be remitted to the people, in alleviation of their distress. seven millions of taxes."

He was followed by Mr. Ricardo, Mr. Baring, Mr. Robertson, Mr. Hume, Mr. T. Wilson, Sir H. Parnell, Lord Folkestone, Mr. H. G. Bennet, Lord Milton, Sir R. Wilson, Mr. Wodehouse, and Mr. Bennet of Wiltshire. Most of whom differed upon the subject of the sinking fund.

The resolutions were then put and agreed to; the house resumed, and the report was ordered to be received on Monday.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer's (Ireland) bill went through a: committee.

Mr. Lushington presented several returns and accounts from the treasury, which were ordered to be printed.—Adjourned.

House of Lords, Feb. 24.—Earl Somers presented two petitions from Hereford, one upon the subject of agricultural distress; in presenting which he observed he thought some rate should be put upon funded property, that land might be in some proportion relieved. The other petition was against the insolvent debtors' act.

The Earl of Darnley thought that there was a spirit in the nation which would in time work its own relief.

The Archbishop of Canterbury moved that the committee on the marriage act be allowed to . report from time to time.

The question having been put, and leave given,

The Archbishop of Canterbury brought up the report, which, being

read

read, recommended the passing of a temporary bill, until a permanent law could be agreed upon. His grace then brought in the bill to repeal so much of the act of last session as was prospective.

Lord Ellenborough saw no reason to suppose that a well-digested and satisfactory bill might not be prepared without as much delay as some persons anticipated.

The bill was then read a first time, and the surrogates licensing bill was read a second time.

Some conversation took place between the Marquis of Lansdown, the Earl of Liverpool, and Lord Ellenborough, upon the subject of France and Spain.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, Feb. 24.—
Petitions were presented against the insolvent debtors' act—the leather tax in Ireland—the hop tax—the whole of the assessed taxes.

· Mr. Calcraft gave notice of a motion to repeal the leather tax in England, in lieu of that upon carriages, and the tax upon candles in lieu of the riding-horse tax.

The report of ways and means was brought up, and the resolutions

agreed to.

Sir Robert Wilson rose for the purpose of presenting a petition on a subject which he considered of great importance at the present moment. The petition he held in his hand was from the inhabitants of the parish of St. John, Southwark, in vestry assembled; and the object of its prayer was, that the foreign enlistment bill might be repealed.

Mr. Hobkouse begged to second the prayer of the petition.

After a few words from Mr. Canning, the petition was ordered to be brought up and laid upon the table.

Mr. Curwen presented a petition from colonel Robert Wood, complaining that he had been dismissed the service without any trial or adequate cause being assigned, and that his accounts had not been duly allowed.

Lord Palmerston stated, that the accounts which had been taken before his entrance on office, presented a balance of 3600l. now due from the petitioner, and that he (Lord Palmerston) had relinquished such balance on its being intimated that the petitioner was unable to pay it.

After a few words from Colonel Davies and Sir R. Wilson, in vindication of colonel Wood, the petition was read, and ordered to lie

upon the table.

Lord A. Hamilton said, in reference to a notice of a motion with respect to the correspondence relative to Mr. Bowring's detention, that upon its contents would depend whether he should follow up his motion by some ulterior proceedings. He should move for that correspondence on Thursday.

Mr. Sergeant Onslow gave notice of a motion for the 15th of March, for leave to bring in a bill for regulating the interest on the

loan of money.

The report of the committee of .
supply on the navy estimates was

then brought up.

Mr. Hume reprobated the promotions in the navy of the past year, which he said were made for the purpose of parliamentary patronage only.

Sir G. Clerk defended the pro-

motions.

The resolutions were afterwards agreed to.

Mr. Goulburn postponed the second reading of the Irish yeomanry manry corps bill till the 6th of March.

Mr. Hume said, unless it was the intention of his majesty's government to bring in some measure for the purpose of putting down the system of Orange lodges, he should feel it to be his duty to oppose this bill.

Mr. J. Grattan was of opinion that the hon. member for Aberdeen was perfectly right.

Mr. Goulburn postponed the second reading of the Irish arms bill till the 6th of March.

Mr. Brownlow moved for "Copies of the committals of the persons engaged in the alleged riot and conspiracy on the 14th of last December at the Dublin theatre."

—Agreed to.

He next moved for "Copies of the bills of indictment, alleging a riot and conspiracy to riot, which were preferred before the grand jury of the city of Dublin, on the 1st of January last, and the finding of the jury thereon."—Agreed to.

He then moved for "A copy of the ex-officio information, on the same subject, filed in the Court of King's Bench by his majesty's attorney-general for Ireland."—Agreed to.

Mr. Brougham postponed the motion which stood for Thursday next, respecting the foreign enlistment bill.

On the motion of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the house resolved itself into a committee of supply, when the right hon. gent. moved the finance resolutions which he had introduced on Friday last.

In answer to a question from Mr. Grenfell,

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said that those who had already 1823. compounded under particular heads of the assessed taxes, were to have the same benefit as others who had not so compounded, in the absolute and comparative reductions which were proposed.

In answer to a question from Mr. Leycester, the right honourable gentleman said that his view of the rate of the composition would be this:—Suppose a person bad formerly paid 100% in amount of assessed taxes, and had paid the original composition upon sum: he would now have to pay the same per centage in proportion upon half the hundred pounds that he had previously paid upon the larger amount. The assessments were to be made out upon the 5th of April.

The house resumed, and the report was ordered to be received on Friday next, at which time, the Chancellor of the Exchequer said, it was his intention to submit his proposition respecting the Irish assessed taxes.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer gave notice that on Monday next he would submit a motion respecting the sinking fund.

The report of the Chancellor of the Exchequer (Ireland) bill was brought up, and agreed to.—The bill was ordered to be read a third time to-morrow.

Mr. Hume said that he was not aware there would be any objection to the motion which he had to make for returns of the names of all persons in the yeomanry service in Ireland who received pensions in the nature of reward or retired allowances, the length of their respective services, the dates of appointments, names of medical officers granting certificates, and statement of the authority upon

upon which such pensions were given. The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Hume moved for a return of the assessments of land-tax, (not exonerated) in the county of Surrey, for the last 20 years; also of the amount so assessed; the amount collected; the amount paid to the receiver-general, and the amount of surplus collected in each year; how the same has been in each year expended; a statement of the items of said expenses; the authority for such appropriations; and where the surplus has been deposited; distinguishing each district, and specifying, also, the names of the commissioners and collectors for such districts. Return ordered.

Mr. Hume stated that a king's taxes' list had been lately put into his hands, in which he observed an item that was to him quite of a novel description. The collection had been made in the borough of Southwark, and among others there was a charge for "stock-tax." What was the nature of this tax, he was not at all aware: he should therefore move for "A return of the amount collected from the inhabitants of the parish of St. Saviour, Southwark, or of any other parish in the United Kingdom, under the denomination of 'stock tax,' independent of, and separate from, the land-tax; stating the date of the enactment of such tax, the authority under which it had been collected, the amount collected in every year, and the purposes to which the same has been applied."

Mr. N. Calvert apprehended that the stock-tax was originally meant, like the poor-rates, to attach to every species of property. He thought, looking to the nature of its origin, that the only matter

of surprise was—not that its collection should be peculiar to the borough of Southwark, if that was the case, but that it should not have been the case with every other district.

Mr. Monck conceived that the original intention of the tax had just been correctly stated. It could hardly be doubted that stock should be as liable to taxation as any other species of property.

After a few words from Mr. Hume, the return was ordered.

Mr. Hume then moved for a return, specifying the names of all the collectors of the land, or of the assessed taxes, who act also as commissioners, in the Kensington, or any other district.—Ordered.

Lord Palmerston gave notice that he would move the army estimates on Wednesday se'nnight.—Adjourned.

House of Lords, February 25.—Petitions were presented against the marriage act—the insolvent debtors' act—and complaining of agricultural distress. The temporary marriage-act was read a second time.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, Feb. 25.— Petitions were presented against Catholic emancipation—the assessed taxes, and the insolvent debtors' act.

Sir R. Wilson called the attention of the secretary of the treasury to the ease of those persons who had been prosecuted for selling roasted grain. Government had remitted their fines, but they had incurred law expenses greater even than their fines. He hoped the treasury would pay these expenses.

Mr. H. G. Bennet moved for a return of the number of persons sentenced to be whipped in the prisons of the metropolis during

the

the last seven years, specifying all those who liad suffered the punishment, distinguishing their ages and sex, and stating whether the whipping had been public or private.

Mr. Hume rose for the purpose of calling the attention of the house to the situation of the colonies belonging to Great Britain, and the expense of their government. After very strong remonstrances, he had, last year, succeeded in obtaining from the secretary to the treasury such an account as could be rendered of the expenditure in respect of the military establishment in those colonies. It had been somewhat difficult to make the separation between the accounts; but, by an abstract, which he held in his hand, of the actual disbursements of the several commissaries upon foreign stations, for the year ending 25th December, 1820, and paid by Great Britain, exclusive of the revenues collected in the several colonies, it appeared that the following charges were incurred, viz.-

Canada	354,781	12	9
Nova Scotia and New Bruns- wick	122,353 9,921 28,269 7,904	5 7 13	10
and Colonies	346,108 115,691	9	0
Jamaica	115,691	9	0
Jamaica Cape of Good Hope	177.043	14	0
Mauritius	57,274	13	j
Medite rancan	201,247		3
Gebruillar	140.002	8	4
Sierra Leone and Gambia Heligoland	62,208 6,371		6
The revenue collected in these	1,629,298	1	6
colonies amounted to	1,926,850	٥	0
Making the total expense	3,556,148	1	6

In some of these colonies, a large revenue was collected by the local government, under an authority directly contrary to the spirit of the British constitution, which said that no subject should be taxed

but by an act of the legislature. They ought, therefore, either to be permitted to have a voice in the making laws for the government of their own affairs, or the amount of the revenue ought to be sanctioned by the house. By the accounts which the government had obtained within the last two years. it appeared that the sum collected by the local government was sofar from being equal to the expenses of the colonies, that after nearly the whole of it had been laid out there, they required large remittances from this country. Upon reference to an abstract of the revenue and expenditure of Ceylon, the Mauritius, Malta and Gozo, and the Cape of Good Hope, it would be seen that the amounts of their revenue and expenditure were as follows, during the years specified, viz. :--

The honourable member then gave it as his opinion, that the colonies were a burden to the country, and it would be well were they their own masters and set at liberty: He concluded by moving an address to his majesty, praying, "That he would give directions that there should be laid before the house, separate estimates of the revenue of Ceylon, the Mauritius, Trinidad, Malta, and the Cape of Good Hope, for the last year, together with the amount paid by Great Britain for the civil and military expenditure of those colonies for the same period, and the total expenditure for each colony."

After a few words from Mr. Wilmot, Mr. Bright, and Mr. Muberley, Mr. Hume consented

to withdraw his motion, with the understanding that the information required should be granted as soon as possible.

Mr. P. Moore moved for "a select committee to examine the powers vested in those commissioners, and the manner in which they were exercised."—The motion was agreed to, and the committee nominated.

Mr. Goulburn postponed the second reading of the Irish militia reduction bill to Monday next.

The Irish Chancellor of the Exchequer's bill was read a third

time, and passed.

Mr. Herrics brought in the customs and excise duties bill, the 20,000,000l. exchequer bills bill, and the 3,000,000l. exchequer residue bill, which were severally read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.—Adjourned.

House of Lords, February 26.—
A person from Chelsea hospital presented an account of unclaimed prize money.

Petitions were presented against the debtors' act—the hop duty and praying for a commutation of tithes. The bills before the house were then forwarded one stage.— Adjourned.

House of Commons, Feb. 26.— Petitions against the insolvent act were presented from Witney, Selby, Dudley, and two other

places.

Mr. Macpherson Grant gave notice of a motion for Friday, on the subject of highways in Scotland.

Mr. Holme Sumner brought in a bill for building a new bridge in the place of London bridge.

Sir George Clerk rose, pursuant to notice, on the subject of the regulation of weights and measures throughout the kingdom.

Mr. Maxwell agreed in the policy of the honourable baronet's measure.

Leave was given to bring in the bill. It was afterwards brought in, and read a first time.

Mr. Sergeant Onslow postponed his motion on the interest of money from the 15th of April to the 22d.

Mr. M. Campbell presented a

petition from the persons concerned in the kelp trade of Argyleshire, praying for a change in the law as to the importation of barilla. The honourable member declared, that unless some course was taken by the house, kelp would be thrown completely out of the market, and from 150,000 to 200,000 persons would, in consequence, be deprived of employment.

Mr. Chetwynde moved for returns from the treasurers of counties, of the sums collected within the last seven years in the way of county rate, with an account of the application of such monies, distinguishing bridges, gaols, and buildings, highways, criminal prosecutions, &c.

Mr. Spring Rice revived an order of the last session for a return of the number of free dioceses (schools) in Ireland, with an account of the number of scholars in each.

The annual duty bill, the exchequer bills bill, and the transfer of aids bill, were severally read a second time. — Committed for tomorrow.

The Lord Advocate moved to continue, until June 1824, the bill for making the payment of creditors in Scotland more equal.

Mr. Goulburn moved for leave

to bring in a bill for the better recovery of ministers' money in Ireland.

After a few words from Sir John Newport, leave was given to

bring in the bill.

Mr. Brougham gave notice, on the part of his honourable friend the member for Calne (Mr. Abercromby), that he would on Tuesday next submit a motion to the house on the subject of the secret societies in Ireland, called Orange clubs.

Mr. M. Fitzgerald completely concurred in the propriety of the motion, and gave notice that he would on the same day move for certain papers relative to the constitution of those societies.

Mr. Whitmore rose to bring under the consideration of the house the laws respecting corn. He was of opinion the present system could not long continue, that it would eventually be the means of great scarcity, which it was already gradually producing.

Mr. Curwen approved of the law in its present state, as also Mr. Bennet, of Wiltshire, Mr. Wodehouse, and Mr. Huskisson.

Mr. Curwen and Mr. Bennet explained.

Mr. Ricardo supported the motion.

Mr. Atwood spoke against it. Mr. Monck declared his intention of voting in its favour.

Colonel Wood thought the measure likely to unsettle the mind of the country.

Mr. Hume, Sir T. Lethbridge, Mr. S. Wortley, and Mr. Leycester, spoke in favour of the motion.

The house then divided:-Ayes 25 - Noes 78, - majority against it 53.

The other orders of the day

were then disposed of, and the house adjourned.

House of Lords, Feb. 27.-The Speaker of the House of Commons, accompanied by several members. attended at half-past three o'clock at the bar, to hear the royal assent given by commission to the annual indemnity bill. The commissioners were, the Lord Chancellor, the Earl of Shaftesbury, and Lord Bathurst.

Earl Verulam presented a petition against the marriage-act .-Ordered to lie on the table.

The temporary marriage-act was reported, and the amendments agreed to. The surrogates' licensing bill was read a third time. The West Indies and American colonies trade bill went through a committee. - Adjourned till tomorrow.

House of Commons, Feb. 27.— Petitions were presented upon the subject of agricultural distresspraying for parliamentary reformagainst the duties on foreign yarn, and the hop duty.

Mr. Curwen presented a petition from the merchants and traders concerned in the South Sea and Greenland whale fisheries, praying for some restriction upon the importation of foreign tallow.

Mr. Manning moved that a return should be laid upon the table, showing the yearly balances connected with the works of Ramsgate harbour, from the year 1791 to the year 1822, distinguishing the nature of the assets, and their disposal.

The annual duties bill, the exchequer bills bill, and the transfer of aids bill, severally went through their committees. - Reports tomorrow.

The Scotch creditors' bill was

read a first and second time, and ordered to be committed.

The messengers of the House of Lords brought up the surrogates licensing bill, which was read a first and second time, upon the motion of the Attorney General.

Mr. Bowring's imprisonment .-Lord A. Hamilton rose to bring; this subject before the house. After commenting at length upon the injustice and hardship of the case, he concluded by moving for an address to his majesty, "praying that there may be laid before the house, a copy of any letter or letters addressed to the right hon. George Canning, secretary of state for foreign affairs, by Mr. John Bowring, relative to his imprisonment in France; together with a copy of any letter or letters from Mr. Planta, of the foreign office, with their enclosures, if any, relative to the same."

Mr., Canning opposed the motion. Sir Robert Wilson thought the case should be known, but did not think it demanded national interference.

Mr. C. Hutchinson supported the motion.

Mr. Canning explained.

Lord A. Hamilton, in reply, observed, that when he found it admitted that an Englishman had been wrongfully arrested, imprisoned, and persecuted, and had been denied justice or redress, he could feel no regret at having brought his case under the notice of that house.

The question was then put, and negatived without a division.

On the motion of Sir George Clerk, the weights and measures' bill was read a second time, and committed for to-morrow.

Sir John Newport said that his

object in now rising was to move for leave to introduce two bills respecting grand jury presentments in Ireland. He would, therefore, move for leave to bring in "a bill to regulate the amount of presentments by grand juries for payment of the public officers of the several counties of Ireland."—Leave given.

Sir John Newport then moved for and obtained leave to bring in "a bill to make more effectual regulations for the election, and to secure the performance of the duties, of county treasurers, and of officers intrusted with the collection of grand jury assessments in

Ireland."

Mr. Thomas Courtenay moved for a committee, to which might be referred the poor-returns for the year ending 25th of March, 1822.

—Agreed to.

Mr. Wilmot moved that an humble address be presented to his majesty, praying that he would be graciously pleased to give directions that there be laid before the house returns of all slaves exported from, or imported into, the West India Islands, the Isle of France, and the Cape of Good Hope, since the year 1808, distinguishing the sexes, the numbers so imported and exported in each year, the numbers of births and deaths, &c. — The motion was agreed to.

Mr. Wilmot then brought up various papers connected with the registration of slaves in the islands and colonies, which were ordered to be laid on the table.—Adjourned.

House of Lords, Feb. 28.— Agnew r. Stewart.—This was an appeal from the court of session, Scotland, in which their lordships had reversed the judgment of the

court

court below. The case came on again now on a petition, praying their lordships to review their former judgment.

Lord Redesdale said, he was

for dismissing the petition.

The Lord Chancellor said, he would defer giving his opinion till Monday.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, Feb. 28.— Petitions were presented upon the subject of the local taxation of Dublin, and agricultural distress.

Mr. Brougham moved for leave to bring in a bill to extend the retail trade of beer.

Sir T. Lethbridge supported the

notion.

The Chancellor of the Erchequer had it in contemplation to adopt some proceedings on the subject. The chief object which he had in view was to provide the poorer classes with a better beverage at a

lower price. — Leave was then given to bring in the bill.

Mr. Maberly brought forward his motion for the repeal of 7,000,000l. of taxes upon the principles of the resolutions recorded in his speech of Saturday last.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer

opposed the motion.

Mr. Maberly replied.

Mr. Ricardo approved the motion.

Mr. Baring thought the proposed plan the lightest bubble ever blown in that house.

Mr. Tierney opposed the mo-

tion

Mr. Calcrast next spoke.

Mr. Tierney shortly replied,

When the house divided:—Ayes 72—Noes 157—Majority against it 85.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of.—Adjourned.

## CHAPTER II.

Supplies.—Penitentiary at Milbank.—Duties on East India Sugars.—
Sinking Fund.—Marriage Act Amendment.—Irish Assessed Taxes.—
Church Establishment of Ireland.—Official Reports.—Orange Societies
in Ireland.—Commutation of Irish Tithes.—Disposal of his Majesty's
Property.—Warehousing Act.—Agricultural Distress.—The King's
Library.—Game Laws.—Merchant Vessel Apprentice Bill.—Mutiny
Bill.—Division of Counties.—Ordnance Estimates.—Slave Trade.—Repeat of Assessed Taxes.—France and Spain.—Monument to Lords St.
Vincent and Duncan.—Cape Breton.—Beer Trade.—Sundry Petitions,
&c. &c.

Agnew v. Stewart.—The Lord Chancellor went over the principal points in the case, and declared himself satisfied with the judgment which the house had come to: but postponed till Wednesday next giving his opinion on one point.

The Farl of Shaftesbury presented a petition from the brothers

and sisters of the free chapel of St. Catherine's, near the Tower of London, praying for the repeal of that part of the marriage act which related to peculiars.—Referred to the committee sitting on the laws relating to marriage.

The Earl of Darnley moved for the agreement made with Wm. Bradley King, for supplying stationery since the 1st of July: also an account of the supplies, and an average of the prices for the last

10 years.

The motion was agreed to, and the house adjourned till to-morrow.

House of Commons, March 3.— A great number of petitions were presented.

Sir G. Noel presented a petition from Olive, Princess of Cumberland, a prisoner in the rules of the King's Bench prison, complaining of her detention there.

Mr. Curteis presented a petition from Northiam in Sussex, praying for a repeal of the hop

duty.

Mr. Alderman Wood recommended the taking off the duty on malt, by which he was of opinion that more beer would be consumed.

Mr. Littleton anticipated great advantage to the lower classes of the people from the relief of the. beer duty.

Mr. G. Bennet recommended to take the tax off the beer, and lay

it on the malt.

Mr. Curteis thought the petitioners were at least entitled to a committee for inquiry into their distress.—The petition was then brought up and read.

Upon the motion of Sir J. Nichol, the marriage act amendment bill was read a second time.

The house then went into a com-

mittee on the Scotch creditors' bill, which was ordered to be reported to-morrow.

A conversation passed between Mr. G. Bennet, Mr. Peel, and Mr. Holford, upon the state of health in the Penitentiary at Milbank.

Mr. S. Rice presented a petition from the tanners of the city of Limerick, against the mode of collecting the leather-tax.—Laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

After some conversation upon the subject of Mr. Abercromhy's motion, it was fixed for Wednes-

day next.

*Mr. Whitmore* presented a petition from a number of merchants and traders, praying for an equalization of the duties of East and West India sugars: upon the grounds, that the reasons of levying the protecting duty had ceasedthat the advantage is unfair at the expense of East India—that keeping up the price of sugar prevents its consumption—that the use of sugar as a dead weight to ships returning from India is essentialthat the advantage to England of meeting the wants of 100 millions is so much greater than of or 800,000. — Laid on table.

On the motion of the *Chancellor* of the Exchequer, the house resolved itself into a committee of supply, for the purpose of considering the resolutions for the reduction of the national debt.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer proposed a series of resolutions relative to the remodelling of the sinking fund. The resolutions were The right hon. gentleas follows. man concluded by moving the first of them.

"That it is the opinion of this committee, that the payment of

all

all sums of money which now are charged upon and issuable out of the consolidated fund of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, to the commissioners for the reduction of the national debt. should, upon and after the 5th day of April, 1823, cease and determine.

"That it is the opinion of this committee, that all capital stock and annuities, for terms of years (save and except the capital stock arising from donations and bequests, towards reducing the national debt,) which on the 5th day of April, 1823, shall stand in the names of the commissioners for the reduction of the national debt. in the books of the governor and company of the Bank of England: or of the South Sea company; or of the Bank of Ireland, either on account of the sinking fund, or for the purchase of life annuities, should, from and after the 5th day of April, 1823, be cancelled in the books of the said banks, and South Sea company, respectively: and the interest or dividends, which would have been payable on the said capital stock, upon or at any time after the said 5th day of April, shall cease to be issued, or to be charged upon the said consolidated fund.

"That it is the opinion of this committee, that upon the 5th day of April, 1823, or as soon after as the same can be prepared, an account shall be laid before parliament, showing the total amount the unredeemed funded and outstanding unfunded debt in exchequer bills, unprovided for, of the United Kingdom, on the said 5th day of April; together with the annual charge attending the same. And there shall from

thenceforth be set apart and issued. at the receipt of the exchequers of Great Britain and Ireland, out of the said consolidated fund, to be placed to the account of the commissioners for the reduction of the national debt, the annual sum of 5,000,000l. to be applied by them towards the reduction of the national debt of the United Kingdom. and which said sum shall charged upon the said consolidated fund, and be issued by equal quarterly payments; the first quarterly payment to be charged upon the said consolidated fund on the 5th day of April, 1823.

"That it is the opinion of this committee, that it is expedient that so much of the acts of the 53d and 56th years of his late majesty, relating to the redemption of the national debt, as require that whenever an amount of capital funded debt of Great Britain and Ireland respectively should have been transferred to the said commissioners, as should be equal to the whole capital, and should produce an interest or yearly dividend equal in amount to the whole annual charge in perpetual annuities of each loun contracted since 1786. that a certificate and declaration thereof should be made by the said commissioners of the amount of the public debt, to which such certificate and declaration should relate, should from time to time be stiemed to be wholly satisfied and discharged, and an equal amount of capital stock, standing in the names of the said commissioners. should be considered to be redeemed, and should from time to time be cancelled, be repealed.

"That it is the opinion of this committee, that no capital stock, or annuities for terms of years, which

after

after the 5th day of April, 1828, shall be placed in the names of the said commissioners, in the books of the Bank of England, or of the South Sea company, or of the Bank of Ireland, shall be cancelled, (save and except the stock placed in their names for the redemption of the said tax,) until the interest of the debt redeemed by the said commissioners, by the application of the said sum of 5,000,000l., and of the growing interest thereof, shall, together with the said sum of 5,000,000l., have accumulated to a sum the annual amount whereof shall not be less than the one-hundredth part of the then existing unredeemed funded debt, and outstanding unfunded debt in exchequer bills unprovided for, of the United Kingdom taken together: and that any capital stock which shall be pluced in the names of the said commissioners on account of the sinking fund, or further purchase of life annuities, after the said einking fund shall amount to the one-hundredth part of the said unredeemed funded debt and unfunded debt, taken together as aforesaid, shall be liable to be cancelled at such times and in such manner as Parliament shall from time to time direct.

"That it is the opinion of this committee, that a new and separate account shall be raised and kept in the books of the governor and company of the Bank of England, of the sums already given by way of donation or bequest towards reducing the national debt, and of all sums which shall bereafter be given or bequeathed for the like purpose; and the interest or dividends which shall accrue on all stock arising therefrom shall be applied in the purchase of public annuities,

composing the national debt, for the purpose of fulfilling the directions of the person or persons giving or bequeathing the same, and to no other purpose whatever.

"That it is the opinion of this committee, that the annual expense of the establishment in Great Britain for the reduction of the national debt shall be charged upon the consolidated fund of the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

"That it is the opinion of this committee, that the expenses of the establishments necessary for carrying into execution 'An act of the 48th year of the reign of his late majesty, for enabling the commissioners of the national debt to grant life annuities, and of two acts made in the 39th and 54th years of the reign of his said majesty, for redemption of the land tax,' shall be charged upon the said consolidated fund.

"That it is the opinion of this committee, that it is expedient that the several acts for the reduction of the national debt should be altered and amended."

After a debate of considerable length, the first resolution was put and carried, as also the second. — On the third resolution being put, Mr. Hume proposed as an amendment: "That in the opinion of this committee, it is inexpedient to maintain a real sinking fund of more than 3,000,000l., and that immediate relief can only be afforded to the country by repealing taxes to the amount of the actual surplus of revenue:" which was negatived, and the original motion carried.—The other resolutions were then carried successively.—Report ordered to be brought up to-morrow.

Assessed taxes (Ireland) bill reported.

Militia

Militia reduction (Ireland) bill, 2d reading postponed till Friday.

Mr. P. Moore moved for leave to bring in a bill to alter the law against combinations of workmen.-Leave given.

Mr. IV. Courtenay asked leave to bring in his bill for the regulation

of prisons. - Leave given.

pounded for assessed taxes read a first time.

Bill for recovery of Ministers' money in Ireland, read a first time.

Adjourned.

House of Lords, March 4.—Mr. Brogden, accompanied by several other members of the House of Commone, brought up the annual duties', the transfer of aids', the Irish Chancellor of the Exchequer's, the exchequer bills' (20,000,000l.), and the Lanarkshire roads' bills, which were severally read the first time.

Adjourned till to-morrow.

House of Commons, March 4.— Mr. Chaloner presented a petition from York against the hawkers' and pedlars' act.

Mr. Lambton presented a petition from Sunderland against the insol-

vent debtors' act.

Sir T, Acland moved for leave to bring in a bill for regulating the general turnpike act.

Col. Wood seconded the motion. Upon the motion of Sir J. Nicholl, the marriage act amendment bill was read a third time, and the report brought up.

Mr. Nolan moved for leave to bring in a bill for amending the ex-

isting poor-laws.

Leave given to bring in the bill. Mr. Lennard wished to ask, whether it was the intention of his Majesty's Government to reduce the expenses of the civil list in the diplomatic department?

The Chancellor of the Exchequer: said, he was not aware of any intention to make a farther reduction.

Mr. Herries brought in a bill for repealing the tax on male servants, horses, carriages, and dogs, in Ireland.

Mr. Curwen expressed his intention of moving for a repeal of the Bill to relieve these who had com- , whole of the duty on cottages.

> The bill was then read a first, and ordered to be read a second time tomorrow.

Mr. Hobhouse presented a petition from Westminster, for the repeal of the whole of the assessed taxes.

After some conversation, the petition was read, laid on the table,

and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Hume rose to make his proposed motion relative to the church establishment of Ireland, which he supported upon the ground that it was disproportionate to the population, that a great part of the clergy were non-residents, that the tithes were oppressive, and that the reformation and reduction of such establishment would do more than any thing else towards tranquillizing Ireland.—He then moved the following resolutions:

"That the property of the church of Ireland, at present in the possession of the bishops, the deans, and chapters of Ireland, is public property, under the control and at the disposal of the legislature, for the support of religion, and for such other purposes as Parliament in its wisdom may deem beneficial to the community; due attention being always paid to the rights of every person now enjoying any part of that property.

"That it is expedient to inquire whether the present church establishment of Ireland be not more than commensurate to the services to be performed, both as regards the

number

number of persons employed and the incomes they receive; and, if so, whether a reduction of the same should not take place, with due regard to all existing interests.

"That the peace and best interests of Ireland would be promoted by a commutation of tithes—those belonging to lay impropriators, as well as those in possession of the clergy-on such principles as shall be considered just and equitable towards the interests of the clergy and the present possessors, whether lay or clerical.

" That a select committee be appointed to consider in what way the objects stated in these resolutions can be best carried into effect."

In submitting these resolutions, he begged to assure the house, that it was not his intention to throw any imputation upon any individual connected with the church establishment in Ireland. Which Mr. Hobhouse seconded. He was supported by Messrs. Fitzgerald, Denman, Monck, and Grattan, and opposed by Messrs. Goulburn, Stuart, Peel, and Plunket.

The house then divided upon the second resolution. For the resolution, 62-Against it, 167-Majority, 105.

Mr. Marryat rose to call the attention of the house to an erroneous statement issued from the Admiralty relating to his majesty's sloop Dotterel; and moved for a humble address to his majesty that he would be graciously pleased to order certain letters to be laid before the house.—Some debate passed, after which Mr. Marryat withdrew his motion.

The other orders of the day were disposed of, and the house adjourned.

House of Lords, March 5.—Lord Berley took the oaths and his seat.

His Lordship was introduced by Lords Maryborough and Colchester.

The following bills were read the second time-viz. The Irish Chancellor of the Exchequer's, the exchequer bills (20,000,0004), the transfer in aids', the annual duties', and the Lanarkshire roads' bills .---Adjourned till to-morrow.

House of Commons, March 5.— A person from the King's-beuch prison brought up the returns of the Marshal relative to the said prison.

Mr. Alderman Wood brought up the report of the London-bridge committee, after which leave was given to bring in a bill for rebuilding the bridge.

The ways and means and supply committees were postponed until Friday next.

The Scotch creditors' bill was rend a third time, and passed.

The Irish assessed taxes repeal bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed.

Sir T. Lethbridge presented a petition from a Mr. Wm. Palmer, of Cork, complaining of personal injury received at the Cape of Good Hope through the influence of the Jesuits there. The hon. member then adverted to the belief that the Jesuits were at this time injuring Ireland.

After some conversation between Mr. C. Hutchinson, Mr. Wilmot, Mr. Hobhouse, Mr. Hume, Mr. Brownlow, Mr. M. Fitzgerald, and Sir H. Parnell, the petition was ordered to be printed.

Mr. Abercromby brought forward his motion relative to certain secret societies in Ireland, particularly the Orangemen and those called Purple-men-he dwelt at great length upon the secret nature of these associations, their mysterious oath of admission, the great numbers of

their

their members, the absolute authority of their superiors, and the injury they have continually done.—

He concluded by moving,

"That an humble address be presented to his Majesty, setting forth that his faithful Commons, deeply deploring the dissensions by which Ireland has been for so great a length of time agitated and convulsed, and which, among other evils, have produced the formation of societies founded upon exclusive and unconstitutional principles, beg leave to assure his Majesty of their most cordial and zealous concurrence in all measures for maintaining and enforcing the law, for giving to the people the full benefit of the constitution, and for aiding by his paternal solicitude to support concord and unanimity in Ireland."

On the question being put from

the chair,

A debate of considerable length was carried on, in which Mr. Goulburn, Sir J. Newport, Mr. Dawson, Mr. M. Fitzgerald, Mr. Peel, Mr. J. Grattan, and Mr. Canning, were the speakers—the prevailing opinion was generally in a high degree adverse to these societies. The motion was then withdrawn, the orders of the day disposed of, and the house adjourned.

House of Lords, March 6.— Lord Fitzroy Somerset, accompanied by several other members of the House of Commons, brought up the marriage validity bill and the Scotch creditors' bill: the latter bill was read a first time.

The Earl of Daraley hoped that the papers relative to Ireland would be soon laid on the table of the House of Lords, as they would be on that of the other house.

The Earl of Liverpool replied in the affirmative.

The Earl of Liverpool brought down a message from his Majesty, which was read by the Lord Chancellor. It stated, "That whereas his majesty had been informed that doubt had arisen as to the powers vested in his majesty for disposing of such real, copyhold, and leasehold property as his majesty had been entitled to at his accession to the crown, and also to the powers vested in his majesty's successors for disposing of such similar property as they should be entitled to at their accession: his majesty recommended the House of Lords to take the subject into consideration, and to make such provision therein as to them should seem proper."

It was then ordered, on the motion of the Earl of Liverpool, that his majesty's message be taken into consideration to-morrow.

The exchequer bills 20,000,000/. bill, and annual duties bill, were read a third time. The Irish Chancellor of the Exchequer's, the transfer of aids, the annual duties, the exchequer bills, and Lanarkshire roads bills, went through a committee.

Lord Granville presented petitions from Bristol and Gloucester, praying for the repeal of the insolvent debtors' act.—Ordered to lie on the table.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, March 6.— Mr. Alderman Wood moved for a return of all persons surcharged on the assessed taxes in respect of servants, clerks, and warehousemen, in the county of Middlesex, during the last three years.— Ordered.

Mr. Dawson brought up certain papers relating to the case of Mr. W. M. Borthwick, which had been ordered by the house.

Mr. Denison presented a petition from Bermondsey against the insolvent debtors' act.

Lord Folkestone presented a petition on the same subject from New Sarum.

The house resolved itself into a committee on the Irish assessed taxes repeal bill. The report was ordered to be brought up to-morrow.

The Irish yeomanry corps bill was read a second time, when Mr. Grattan gave notice of his intention of bringing this subject before the notice of the house on some future occasion.

Mr. Peel brought down a message from the King. (Vide the House of Lords.)

Mr. Peel afterwards moved that the subject of the message be taken into consideration to-morrow.

Colonel Davies presented a petition from Colonel Allan, of the 55th, complaining of the sentence of a court martial at which he had been tried.

The petition was brought up.

Lord Palmerston opposed the petition. Colonel Allan had been unjustly severe, and suppressed the names of men upon whom he had inflicted corporal punishment.

Other members opposed it.— Laid on the table.

Mr. Goulburn moved for leave to bring in a bill to establish a commutation of tithes for a temporary period in Ireland.

After a conversation of considerable length, leave was given.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved that the order of the day for bringing up the report on the mational debt reduction acts should be then read.

It was read accordingly, and Mr. Brogden brought up the report.

On the question that the house do agree with this report-

Mr. Calcraft approved the principle of the sinking fund, as did also several other gentlemen.

Mr. Calcraft moved to postpone the consideration until the 20th of

April.

Mr. Hume warmly opposed it, and was of opinion that, from the year 1793 to the present hour, the sinking fund had produced no diminution in the public debt.

Mr. Monck thought a sinking fund a positive injury to the

country.

The house divided. For Mr. Calcraft's amendment 57—against it 98,—majority 36.

The report was then agreed to, and the other orders of the day

disposed of.—Adjourned.

House of Lords, March 7.— The royal assent was given to the exchequer bills (20,000,000l.), the annual duties, the West India and American colonies' trade, and the marriages' validity bills.

Lord Orford took the oaths and

his seat.

The Severn bridge and Chancellor of Exchequer (Ireland) bills were read the third time, and passed.

The Marquis of Lansdown presented a petition from Cromarty, praying for a remission of taxation. Ordered to lie on the table. His lordship then presented seven other petitions from certain persons who felt themselves aggrieved by being obliged, as the law stood, to assent to parts of the Liturgy in the ceremonial of marriage. Ordered to be referred to the committee.

Marquis Camden presented petitions from the hop-planters of Dewhurst and Ticehurst. — The petitions were ordered to lie on the table.

Lord

Lord Calthorpe presented a petition from certain persons, praying for an act for the more speedy recovery of small debts.

On the order of the day being read for taking into consideration

his majesty's message,

The Lord Chancellor said it would be recollected that by the 39th and 40th acts of the late king, power was given to his majesty, his heirs and successors, to dispose of all lands which had come to the crown by purchase, from savings out of the civil list, or from any of his majesty's ancestors, Kings of England. The property alluded to in the royal message was the only property to which the jus coronarium did not attach, and was not adverted to by that act. His lordship concluded by moving that a humble address be presented to his majesty, assuring his majesty that the house would concur in any measure which might be thought proper to be adopted.

Lord Ellenborough said, he would merely remark that the less a sovereign appeared to possess of the spirit of a proprietor, the better.

The address was then agreed to.

---Adjourned.

House of Commons, March 7 .--

Mr. Hume rose to renew an order of the last session, for a return which he was anxious to have

laid on the table,—namely,

"An account of the inland letter carriers' superamusted fund since 1807; an account of the salaries of the carriers, and the receipts of the fund up to this period; together with its present amount, and distinguishing the receipts of each year.

"An account of the names and

residence of every surveyor of taxes, who has been permitted to be engaged in any other trade, business, occupation, office, or profession, during the last three years, stating the nature thereof, and distinguishing each year.

"An account of the amount collected on the land tax; the amount paid over to the receiverageneral, and of the surplus of receipts; also for an account of all the items upon which any part of that surplus has been expended, from the year 1819 to 1822, inclusive, distinguishing each year.

"An account of the total number of surcharges on the land and assessed taxes from 1817 to 1822, inclusive, stating the names of the parties who have been relieved from such surcharges, and the total amount to which they have been so relieved, and distinguishing each year."—Ordered.

Sir Thomas Lethbridge obtained leave to bring in a bill to enable magistrates at quarter sessions to define more exactly the subdivisions of counties.

Upon the motion of Mr. Secretary Peel, the house then resolved itself into a committee on his mujesty's message.

Mr. Peel said, he should propose that the chairman should ask for leave to bring in a bill, touching the disposal of certain real property belonging to his majesty and his successors. The proposition was agreed to.

Lord Palmerston moved the order of the day for the house resolving itself into a committee of supply.

His lordship next proposed resolutions for 1,841,658/. for the land forces of Great Britain and

stations

stations abroad independent of the East Indies. 719,710l. for the land force of Ireland. 29.503*l*. for the staff of Great Britain. 18,565*l*. for the Irish staff. 114.837/. for the public clerks of Great Britain. 9,1071. for Ire-13,1301. for medicines and surgical materials. 4,805l. for Ire-134,000l. for the yeomanry of Great Britain. 19,976*l*, for four companies of dragoons and eleven companies of foot for the East India Company. 11,589l. 16s. 1d. for the royal military college. 182,820l. for the payment of general officers not colonels of regi-29,150L for the garrisons ments. of Great Britain. 6,240l. for the of Ireland. garrisons 69.648*l*. 16s. 5d. for allowances to reduced officers. 32,496l. for the in-pensioners of Chelsea and Kilmainham hospitals. 14,5851 for the outpensioners of Kilmainham hospi-1,224,484l. 15s. 10d. for the out-pensioners of Chelsea hospital. 114,070l. for foreign half-pay. 186.2431. 7s. 11d. for the full pay for retired officers. 26,075l. 16s. 7d. for the royal military asylum. 127,2871. 6s 3d. for widows' pensions. 179,798l. 13s. 9d. for the compassionate list. 36,703l. 6s. 10d. for superannuation allowances. 6,854l. 14s. 3d. for superannuation allowances (Ireland.) 33,000/, for exchequer fees.

These items were severally agreed to.

The house then resumed, and the report was ordered to be received on Monday.

Mr. Hume gave notice, that on the 30th of April he would submit a motion, having for its object the removal of the lord lieutenant and the chief secretary of Ireland.—Adjourned. House of Lords, March 10.— The Earl of Darnley requested to be informed of the nature of the bill for commutation of Irish tithes, now passing through the House of Commons. After some conversation, the house adjourned.

House of Commons, March 10.— Several petitions were presented against the insolvent debtors' act the duty on hops—and the coal

tar.

Mr. J. Grattan moved for a return of the advertisements published in the Dublin newspapers, inviting traders for contracts for paving and lighting the streets of Dublin, from January 1807 to January 1823; also a return of the names of persons whose tenders were accepted, &c.

Mr. T. Wilson presented a petition from J. W. Parkins, Esq. complaining of an undue election for the borough of Arundel.—Ordered to be taken into consideration

on the 17th of April.

Mr. Hume gave notice, that he would to-morrow move for a return respecting the land-tax unredeemed, and also for certain returns connected with the post-office, Dublin.

Lord Althorpe moved for a return of all courts instituted for the recovery of debts in England and Wales, except those in Westminster-hall and the great session in Wales; describing the nature and extent of their jurisdiction, and under what authority they were established.—Ordered.

Petitions were presented against the general turnpike act—marriage act—window tax, and for a bill for the recovery of small debts.

Sir J. Newport brought up a bill to regulate the amount of payments made by grand juries in Ireland.—Read the first time.

The

The right hon baronet moved for an account of the official value of the manufactures of Ireland exported from the 5th of January, 1811, to the 5th of January, 1823; and also for several other returns relative to the exports and imports of Ireland.—Ordered.

Mr. Abercromby gave notice, in the absence of his hon. friend the member for Ayr, (Mr. Kennedy,) that on the 22d of April he would move for leave to bring in a bill to alter the manner of summoning and swearing in juries, in criminal proceedings in Scotland.

Mr. Abercromby also gave notice that on the 29th of April he would submit a motion respecting the case of Wm. Murray Borthwick.

Petitions were presented complaining of the increase of poorrates; and one presented by Lord A. Hamilton against the duty on coals between Scotland and Ireland was received, and ordered to be printed.

On the motion of Mr. Wallace, the house resolved itself into a committee on the warehousing duty; and the right hon. gentleman obtained leave to bring in a bill to render more effectual the provisions of the warehousing act.

The Attorney-General brought in a bill to regulate the disposition of the King's property. It was read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time on Thursday next.

Lord Palmerston moved the order of the day for receiving the report of the committee of supply.— The report was then read, and its several votes agreed to.

In the assessed taxes reduction bill, Mr. Curwen moved to take off the whole of the window-tax upon houses not having more than six windows.—Other members moved

various amendments; but those only which the Chancellor acceded to, were to exempt poor men in Scotland having three children, and to extend the privilege to England.—The different resolutions were carried.—Report ordered to be brought up to-morrow.

Mr. Calvert moved for returns of monies paid under decrees of the Court of Requests for the borough of Southwark.

Mr. Herrics moved for an account of all the donations and bequests which had been made for the purpose of liquidating the national debt up to the 5th of April, 1822; which were ordered, and afterwards brought up.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the house adjourned.

House of Commons, March 11.—Petitions were presented against the insolvent debtors' act—the Irish leather tax—praying for an additional duty on foreign tallow—against the directors of the Southwark bridge Company—the Shadwell Church bill, &c.

On the motion of Mr. Hume, accounts were ordered, showing the gross receipts of the unredeemed land-tax of England, Scotland, and Wales, since the year 1796; and also the amount reduced each year by purchases, according to the provisions of the 38th George III., and how the money had been applied. The hon member observed, that it was not his intention to move for the accounts from the Irish Post-office, as the Commissioners of Inquiry were about to investigate that department

The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved the order of the day for the committee on the national debt reduction bill.

Н

Several

Several members opposed the plan of the sinking fund,—others

approved it with modification.

Sir H. Parnell thought the whole debt might be paid in forty-five years, by adding an additional one per cent. to the three per cents. and making them determinable annuities.—The several clauses of the bill were agreed to.

The house resumed, and the report was ordered to be received to-

morrow.

The report on the assessed taxes' repeal bill was then brought up and read; the amendments were agreed to, and the bill was ordered to be read a third time to-morrow.

Mr. Hume gave notice, that he should to-morrow move for certain returns relative to the public deht.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the house ad-

journed.

House of Lords, March 12.— Petitions were presented against the insolvent debtors' act and the turnpike act.

The assessed taxes' repeal bill (Ireland) was read a second time.

On the motion of the Earl of Liverpool, it was ordered that an account of the number of appeals brought before the house since 1813 (the date of the last account), up to the present time, be laid on the table.

Lord Ellenborough complained of the present state of the law respecting marriage. Much mischief was doing, and he hoped that ere long a general law would be before their lordships, which would prove satisfactory both to that house and the public.

Adjourned till to-morrow.

House of Commons, March 12.— There being, at 4 o'clock, only thirty-six members present, the Speaker adjourned the house till tomorrow.

House of Lords, March 13.— The Earl of Darnley presented a petition from Oldham, in Lancashire, against the insolvent debtors' act.—Ordered to lie on the table.

Earl Grey presented a petition from Sunderland, Bishop-Wearmouth, and Monk-Wearmouth, against the insolvent debtors' act; also a similar petition from Derby; and a petition from the same, complaining of hawkers and pedlars.—Ordered to lie ou the table.

House of Commons, March 13.— The Speaker announced to the house, that the ballot for the committee on the Sligo election petition, which was appointed for this day, would not take place; the parties not having entered into recognizances. The order was in consequence discharged.

The Speaker was ordered to issue his writ for a member to serve in Parliament for the borough of Newport, Cornwall, in the room of Jonathan Raine, Esq., who has accepted the office of one of the justices of Wales.

Mr. Alderman Wood presented a petition from Thomas Flanagan, complaining of certain proceedings at the late Sligo election.—Ordered to be printed.

Sir C. Cole presented a petition from a body of dissenters, complaining that the law of marriage, as it now stood, imposed a burden on their conscience, which they were confident was never intended by the legislature, and praying for relief.—Laid on the table.

Mr. Fane presented a petition from Wallington, in the county of Oxford, complaining of agricultural distress.—Laid on the table.

Mr.

Mr. Curteis presented a petition from the parish of Hadleigh, Sussex, praying for an alteration in the corn laws, and for the imposition of additional duties on every species of foreign agricultural produce.

Mr. Curteis presented a petition from Salehurst, in Sussex, praying for a reduction of the duty

on hops.-Laid on the table.

Sir E. Knatchbull presented a petition from the parish of St. Paul's, Deptford, complaining of the great increase of the poor, and praying for a revision of the poor-laws.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. S. Wortley presented a petition from Skipton, in the county of York, relative to the hawkers' and

pedlars' act.

Mr. Mundy presented a similar petition from the town of Derby.—

Laid on the table.

Mr. Mundy presented a petition from Derby, against the insolvent debtors' act.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. A. Robarts presented à similar petition from Maidstone.

On the question "that this peti-

tion be brought up,"

Mr. S. Wortley said, the act of last year having produced no good effect, he was entitled to ask, whether Government had any objection to bringing in another measure? He thought he was not asking too much, when he called for the introduction of some remedial measure.

Sir E. Knatchbull said, complaints against the existing law were heard in every part of the country. An actual necessity existed for some efficient change in the law as it was now administered.

The Solicitor-General said, he could not think of abandoning the principle of the measure; but he would listen with attention to any

suggestion that might be thrown out, and he would endeavour to carry it into effect, if it were practicable. There was one point in which it was, perhaps, possible to make an improvement-he alluded to the case of persons who caused themselves to be collusively arrested, in order to take the benefit of the act. Perhaps it would be proper to introduce a clause into the bill similar to that which was contained in the last to prevent such persons from taking the benefit of the law. He would here take the liberty to observe, that the bankrupt law had been in existence for two hundred years, and those who were conversant with it knew that it was liable to very great abuse-not so much, perhaps, as the insolvent debtors' law: but still it was liable to very great abuse, and had on many occasions given rise to serious complaints. The greatest lawyers in that house had endeavoured to amend it; but frauds were nevertheless perpetrated under it. Let it not therefore be supposed, because frauds were committed under the insolvent debtors' act, that therefore those whose business it was to watch over measures of that nature had neglected their duty.

Sir J. Newport said, he had not asked any question of the Attorney-General on the occasion alluded to. He had applied to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who referred him to the law officers of the crown, the subject being more within their province. In his opinion, an alteration ought to be made in the law.

Mr. Bright was very sorry to hear what had fallen from the Solicitor-General, since it proved that the learned gentleman despaired of making any efficient improvement in the measure. He hoped the law officers of the crown would not

throw on others the burden of new modelling; but that they would undertake the business themselves, and devise proper measures for the protection of the creditors.

Sir M. Ridley agreed with the hon. member for Bristol as to the necessity of altering the present law. He should be extremely sorry to abandon the principle on which the law now stood; but there were many points, by the introduction of which the situation of the creditor might be greatly ameliorated. He would give the creditor more power over the fraudulent debtor, who had, at present, too many facilities for the disposal of his property.

Sir J. Boughey expressed himself in favour of an alteration of the

law.

Mr. H. G. Bennet animadverted on the alteration which had been made in the insolvent debtors' act in the other house of parliament, and concluded by observing, that the law, as it now stood, was a legalized system of fraud.

The petition was then ordered to

lie on the table.

On the motion of Mr. Huskisson, a new writ was ordered for the county of Inverness, in the room of the Right Hon. Charles Grant, who has accepted the office of vice-president of the Board of Trade.

Sir John Sebright presented a petition from the county of Hertford, praying for a reform in parliament.

The hon. baronet also presented a petition from the inhabitants of Bishop-Stortford, praying for the establishment of a local jurisdiction for the recovery of small debts.

These petitions were laid on the table.

Mr. Eennet gave notice, in behalf of an hon. friend of his, that on the

10th of April he meant to submit a motion on the subject of the currency; and also that another hon. friend of his meant, on Monday next, before the ordnance estimates were voted in the committee of supply, to submit a motion respecting the Barbadoes 44 per cents.

Mr. P. Moore presented a petition from the manufacturers of Coventry, against the insolvent debtors' act; and he intimated, that unless something occurred to prevent him, he should on Tuesday next move for a repeal of the present act.

The petition was laid on the

table.

Sir Thomas Lethbridge presented a petition from Woodbridge, complaining of agricultural distress.

The petition was laid on the

table.

Lord A. Hamilton postponed, until Tuesday the 6th of May, his motion respecting the Scotch burghs.

Mr. Lennard postponed, until Tuesday the 25th of March, his motion for an account of the savings under the third class of the civil list.

Mr. Ricardo amended his motion made on a former night, for accounts of the number of persons receiving dividends of a particular amount in the funds.

Mr. C. H. Hutchinson presented three petitions from Cork: one was from the distillers and spirit-dealers, praying to be put upon a par in certain parts of their business with the British distillers and dealers; the second was from the retail spirit-dealers, praying to be allowed to make up compounds, as was permitted to the same class of traders in England; and the third was from the merchants and traders of Cork, complaining of the heavy operation of the duty upon coal.

coal.—These petitions were seve-

rally laid on the table.

Sir J. Newport presented a petition from the inhabitants of the parish of St. Mary, Dublin, praying for the revival of a committee to inquire into the local taxation of that city.

Mr. Plunket said, that to-morrow he meant to move for the revival of such a committee.—The petition was laid on the table.

Col. Wood gave notice, that on the 23d of April he would move two resolutions relating to the law of settlement.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer brought up copies of the King's letter to the Earl of Liverpool, respecting the presentation of his late Majesty's library to the British Museum, and of the report thereon. -Ordered to be printed.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer then gave notice, that on Tuesday next he should move that these papers should be referred to a committee.

Lord Cranborne brought forward his motion for the appointment of a select committee to take into consideration the game laws. Up to the last month of the late year, the committals were 1,467 for violations of the game laws; and during the last month 372 committals had also taken place.

Sir John Sebright, in seconding this motion, implored the house to take the subject into their most serious consideration. He conjured them to do so, not upon any speculative opinion of his own, but upon his actual knowledge, as a magistrate of long experience, of the baneful effect of the game laws. would implore gentlemen, in arguing this question, not to look upon it merely as one affecting the game

laws, but rather as one of the greatest importance to the moral character and condition of a great part of the lower classes of the community. It was in that view alone that he considered the subject; and he repeated his anxious hope, that gentlemen would give their fullest attendance to the discussion, for the purpose of stopping a course of demoralization which could not fail to produce the worst consequences.

Sir John Shelley was of 'opinion that the demoralization of the lower agricultural classes was not so much owing to the game laws, as to the distress which generally prevailed.

Mr. Curwen thought, that to the existence of these odious laws a vast proportion of the offences which came before the judges at the county assizes was to be attributed. one year there had been about 800 persons proceeded against on account of them.

Mr. Gipps was anxious to have a return of the number of convic-

tions under the game laws.

The motion " for a committee to inquire into the present state of the laws respecting game, and to report their opinion thereon to the house," was agreed to, and the said committee nominated.

On the motion of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Brogden brought up the report on the national debt reduction bill.

On the question "that these amendments be now read a second time."

Mr. Tierney put some questions upon the subject of the five millions of sinking fund, and wished to know whether, in the event of the bill passing, the house were not pledged to raise that sum in one way or

The

The Chancellor of the Exchequer assured the house, that the right hon, gent, was not more anxious than he himself was, that this proposition should not be misunderstood. He would endeavour to explain to the right hon, gentleman how the matter stood. He took it, that having allowed for the 2,200,000l. of taxes which it was proposed to repeal in the course of the present year, the public income derived from taxes, &c. might fairly be estimated at 50,000,000% He was now speaking exclusively of the half-pay or dead charge. The annual expenditure—still omitting the arrangement which was made last year upon the subject he had just mentioned, but including the existing charge of the funded debt, and of the civil list, the army, navy, and ordnance services, and all other items of that descriptionwould amount to 47,000,000l. In that case, the surplus would be 3,000,000*l.*; but he thought he was entitled to assume, looking to the plan regarding the half-pay and pension list, and supposing it to succeed by the sale of the proposed annuity-he was, he repeated, entitled to assume, that such surplus would be 5,000,000l.; and he would show the house how. presumed that nobody would say, that if Government could make an arrangement with the individual owners of these half-pay allowances and pensions to receive collectively, and instead of the indefinite period during which their respective interests in such pensions and halfpay might subsist, an annuity of 2,800,000/. for forty-five years, there would not be a saving for the current year to the extent of the difference beeween that annuity and the present amount of the charge.

A portion of the 47,000,000% of expenditure would then be included in the annuity thus given for the 4,800,000*l*., the amount of the halfpay and pensions. But to induce these parties, or a third party, for it was immaterial to the argument with whom the contract was made. to forego their claim to the full extent of the present charge, an annuity had been granted to them for forty-five years, of 2,800,000L This being deducted, he certainly conceived that 2,000,000l. would be the result as a saving to the Go-The obvious effect of vernment. this would be to reduce the expenditure from 47 to 45,000,000*l*. revenue being 50,000,000/., and the expenditure 45,000,000L, surely there was a clear surplus of 5,000,000*l.* of income. Now, supposing the 4,800,000*l*. to be provided through the acceptance of some other party of the 2,800,000l. annuity, the expenditure would be raised altogether to 49,800,000i., and the same operation would raise the revenue to 54,800,000l. This statement equally left a surplus of 5,000,000l.; and he thought himself entitled to contend, that this therefore was a bona fide surplus. Now he proposed to apply these 5,000,000l. to the reduction of the funded debt. So far that debt would be reduced; and if he did nothing to increase the unfunded debt, but only applied the 2,000,000l., of which he had spoken, to the surplus, they would at the end of the year have reduced the funded without increasing the unfunded debt. The right honourable gentleman opposite (Mr. Tierney) next wished to know how he (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) proposed to act through all the vicissitudes which the income of the country might

in future years experience; and seemed to think that government could not proceed upon the principle of having a sum of 5,000,000l. for their surplus, unless they were prepared to state, that in every year, when some fluctuations of the revenue might have the effect of bringing the actual income somewhat below such an amount as would yield a surplus 5,000,000/., they would put on fresh taxes, to raise that surplus up to 5,000,000l. Now, in the first place, he did not think this was a very probable anticipation; and in the next, he did not imagine that it would be possible even to regulate the amount of that fund, or of their finances, upon such exact and minute principles as to be prepared for every possible contingency. He did not see why, if the revenue should so fall short, they should not make the surplus up by means of exchequer-bills, or some other temporary expe-He could not conceive why they should not be permitted to appropriate a portion of the revenue to the reduction of their debt, merely because it might happen in some future year that they might not have revenue sufficient to reserve the precise amount of such a portion. A larger surplus he might have had, but 2,000,000l. and upwards he had proposed to remit in taxes. He was not at all unwilling to state, that the principle upon which he recommended that remission was this—that he thought it better to give the country the benefit of such a reduction of taxes than to retain, upon mere financial grounds, a surplus beyond the 5,000,000l. in question. This amount was as large a one as he

thought it, under the state of the country, advisable to retain. confessed, indeed, that he was sanguine enough to anticipate that such a result would ere long be produced by a judicious revision of all the branches of public expenditure, and by a careful examination into those means by which the revenue might be most conveniently and advantageously collected; and for himself, as well as for his Majesty's government generally, he could assure the house that should the result of such measures be to increase the surplus in question, neither he nor they would ever be unwilling to give to the people the full benefit of such an event.

After some observations from Mr. Hume, Colonel Davies, Sir H. Parnell, and Sir F. Blake, an amendment proposed by Mr. Hume was negatived, and the bill agreed to be read a third time to-morrow.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved the third reading of this bill.

Mr. Maberly said, he would not oppose this measure, as an opportunity would hereafter present itself of stating his opinions.

Mr. Hume hoped that an exception would be made in favour of the windows of rooms occupied as schools. Many small schools, where the young children of poor, persons were sent for instruction, were extremely crowded.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer thought they would come under the exemption of shop-windows, when on the ground-floor.

The bill was then read a third time, and (with a few verbal amendments) passed.

The King's property bill was

read a second time, and ordered to be committed to-morrow.

On the order of the day being read for the second reading of the marriage act repeal bill,

Dr. Lushington moved that the bill be then read a second time.

The bill was read a second time, with the understanding that the discussion should take place on its next stage. It was ordered to be committed on Tuesday.

The mutiny bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed to-morrow.

On the motion of Mr. Hume, there were ordered to be laid before the house a variety of returns respecting the amount of the public debt, in each year of the last seven. Among these were—a return of the gross receipt of the revenue, exclusive of loans in each year, from the 5th of January, 1816, to the 5th of January, 1823: also an account of the actual expenditure, exclusive of the charge of the sinking fund, in each year of the same period.

Mr. Huskisson moved that the house do resolve itself into a committee, to consider of the act 27 Geo. III. for regulating the number of apprentices to be taken on board merchant vessels.

The Speaker having left the chair.

Mr. Huskisson observed, that great inconveniencies had arisen in the merchant service, from the existing regulations respecting apprentices. In some vessels, particularly those in the West India trade, a certain number of apprentices were required to be taken, while in the vessels in other trades no such obligation existed. Now this might be an advantage or a disadvantage, according to the circumstance of

peace or war. In peace it would be a disadvantage to be obliged to have a certain number of apprentices, when for nearly the same expense the same number of able seamen might be had. In war it would be an advantage, when able seamen were difficult to be got, and when the tenure of their services was rendered uncertain by their liability to impressment (to which apprentices in certain cases were not exposed). One object of his bill would be to make the advantages equal in all merchant ships; and this he proposed to effect by a clause that every merchant vessel in every trade should have an equal number of apprentices in portion to her tonnage. For instance, in a ship of from 80 to 200 tons burden, he would have one apprentice; and so on, in proportion to the tonnage. He also proposed to give to apprentices greater protection against impressment. At present those of 17 years of age were liable to be impressed after three years service. He proposed to extend that to four years; or that apprentices should not be liable to be impressed under 21 years. This would be an advantage to merchants, and afford them a greater security in time of war. He also intended to extend a protection from impressment to certain petty officers of merchant ships who were not at present exempted. He had communicated on this subject with persons connected with our mercantile shipping interests, and they all approved of the plan as one which would be found very advantageous. Another subject which he conceived called for the interference of the house was, that of the desertion of seamen from merchant ships. It was a common practice to give to seamen

seamen on outward-bound voyages two or three months' wages in advance, with the understanding that they were engaged to the ship out and home. In cases of desertion at foreign ports (which were not unfrequent in consequence of the temptation often held out of getting higher wages on board other vessels), the seaman forfeited whatever wages were due to him; but this was very triffing, and in many cases nothing at all, as the wages advanced were not covered by the voyage Now to remedy the evil as far as possible, he proposed to give the owners of the ship from which the man deserted, a power over the wages accruing to him from his services in any other by which he This, when known, might return. would, he thought, be found no ineffectual means of preventing desertions in foreign ports, from which so much inconvenience often arose to the merchant service. The right hon, gentleman stated, that if the committee would give him leave, he would have the bill printed for the consideration of members; and concluded by moving, that leave be given to bring in a bill to regulate the number of apprentices to be taken on board British merchant vessels.

Mr. Bernal felt great pleasure in seeing this subject taken up by the right honourable gentleman opposite.

After a few words from Mr.

Ricardo.

Mr. T. Wilson declared it to be his opinion that the protection which this bill would give to apprentices till they reached the age of twenty-one, would create for the country a nursery of active and able seamen at the least possible expense.

Mr. Plummer said a few words.

Mr. Hume expressed a hope that the right honourable gentleman opposite would not hurry itthrough the house, on account of its vast importance to a very numerous class of the community.

Mr. Huskisson assured the hon. member for Aberdeen that he had no intention of hurrying the bill

through the house.

Mr. Ricardo wished to know whether the sailors were friendly to the measure. He had no doubt that their employers were, because they were enabled to lower the rate of wages by increasing the number of apprentices. He thought that the navy would not receive that benefit from it which seemed to be anticipated: his reason for thinking so was, that our sailors would seek employment in the merchant service of other countries if the rate of wages was unduly lowered in their own. Should that be the case, where would hon. gentlemen find that nursery for the navy of which they now came forward to talk so largely?—'I'be motion was agreed to.

The house then resumed.

Mr. Courtenay then brought up the report of the committee, which was agreed to, and leave was then given to bring in the bill.

Mr. H. Twiss moved for leave to bring in a bill for regulating the appointment of assessors at elections.—Leave was granted to

bring in the bill.

Mr. Alderman Wood brought in a bill for rebuilding London bridge.

-Read a first time.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the house adjourned.

House of Lords, March 14.—
A person from the East Indiahouse presented an account of sala-

ries, pensions, &c. granted by the

East India Company.

Mr. Brogden, accompanied by several other gentlemen of the House of Commons, brought up the assessed taxes' reduction and the Irish arms bills, the Severn bridge, and several other private bills, which were read the first time.

The Irish assessed taxes' repeal bill was read the third time, and passed.

Petitions were presented against the marriage and insolvent debtors'

acts.

The Earl of Limerick said that the mischiefs occasioned by the insolvent debtors' act in the part of the country with which he was more particularly acquainted, were incalculable.—Petition ordered to lie on the table.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, March 14.—A person from the East India house presented resolutions of the court of directors for granting pensions.—Laid on the table.

Petitions were presented for a bill for the recovery of small debts, against the insolvent debtors' act, the duty on coals, the duty on apprentice indentures, and the turnpike act.

Mr. H. Twiss brought in a bill for regulating the appointment of assessors at elections.—Read the first time, and ordered to be read the second time on Monday, and

to be printed.

Sir J. Macintosh said he rose to give notice, that he would, as soon as possible after the holidays, bring under the consideration of the house the state of the criminal law.

Mr. Wurre moved for a return of all places in England having a separate and local jurisdiction for the trial of criminal offences, the periods when the sessions were held, and the number of prisoners tried from January 1821 to January 1822.—Ordered.

Mr. Bastard presented a petition from the publicans of Little Holme, praying for the removal of the restriction on spirit licences.—

Laid on the table.

Mr. Evans gave notice, at the request of the honourable member for Bramber (Mr. Wilberforce), that that honourable member would on Monday next present a petition from a body of the people called Quakers, calling for a gradual abolition of the slave-trade throughout the British colonies.

Sir John Newport moved the second reading of the Irish grand

jury presentment bill.

The bill was then read a second time. On the question "that it be committed on Monday,"

Mr. C. Hutchinson urged the right honourable baronet to post-pone the measure till it could be more thoroughly considered.

Sir J. Newport said it would be better to let the bill go through the committee, after which it might be postponed for re-consideration.

After a few words from Mr. Dawson, the bill was ordered to be committed on Monday.

Mr. Peel moved that the house resolve itself into a committee on

the King's property bill.

After a few words from Mr. Bennet, Mr. Peel, Mr. Warre, Mr. Scarlett, and the Attorney-General, the bill went through the committee.

After a few words from Mr. Scarlett, the house resumed, and the report was ordered to be received on Monday.

On the motion of Mr. Plunket, a select committee was appointed to consider of the local taxation of Dublin.

Sir R. Wilson presented a petition from St. John's, Southwark, against the fees in the court of requests.—Ordered to lie on the table.

Lord Palmerston moved the order of the day for a committee on the mutiny bill.

Colonel Davies spoke at length upon the hardship of discharging officers at the will of the crown, and without a court-martial, and moved as an amendment--- "That it be an instruction to the committee on the mutiny bill, to insert a clause to prevent the dismission of officers from the army without trial by courts-martial, and to prevent the punishment of any officer, non-commissioned officer, and soldier, who shall have been previously tried and sentenced by a court-martial, from being carried beyond the extent and import of such sentence."

The amendment was opposed by Lord Palmerston, Mr. E.W. Wynne, Lord Hotham, and Sir F. Bluke; and supported by Mr. C. H. Hutchinson and Mr. Hume.

The question was now put, and the amendment was negatived without a division.

The original question, "that the Speaker do leave the chair," was then put and carried.

The house having gone into the committee,

Mr. Brogden (the chairman) put the question, that the bill be read a first time.

The bill afterwards passed through the committee; and the report was ordered to be received on Monday.

The house resolved itself into a committee of supply.

Sir J. Osborne moved the several items and extras for the navy. There was a diminution, he stated, from last year, of 216,864l. 16s. 3d.: — the sum for the present year would be 5.442,540l. 6s. 8d. The several items were afterwards detailed, and severally carried. The house resumed. — Report ordered to be brought up on Monday.

The third reading of the national debt reduction bill was, on the motion of *Lord Hamilton*, postponed till Monday.

The house then resolved into a committee of ways and means.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved a resolution for applying the surplus of grants from the consolidated fund of Ireland, and of that to the poor clergy of Scotland, accruing since 1817, to the purposes of the last vote in the committee of supply.—The resolution was carried.

469,047*l.*, the surplus of grants in the intermediate years between 1817 and 1822.—Resolution carried.

4,800,000*l*. to be paid into the exchequer from the commissioners of half-pay and pensions. — The resolution was carried.

The next resolution was for applying any repayments of exchequer bills advanced in aid of public works, which should be made before the 5th of April, 1824.—Carried.

A resolution for applying unclaimed dividends and lottery prizes.—Carried.

A resolution for applying the sum of 8,700,000*l*. growing produce of the consolidated fund beyond the annual charges of the fund.—Carried.

The

The house resumed; the report to be received on Monday.

The Irish yeomanry bill was read a third time, and passed.

The marine mutiny bill went through a committee; the report was brought up, and ordered to be re-committed on Monday.

Sir T. Acland brought up the report on the lime exemption from toll bill. — Second reading on Wednesday next.

Mr. Huskisson presented a petition from Belfast, praying for the repeal of the Union duties, which was laid on the table.

Mr. Goulburn brought up the estimates for the Irish incorporated school societies. — Ordered to be printed.

Mr. S. Rice moved for various returns of indictments and prosecutions, acquittals, convictions, and punishments in Ireland, during the last seven years.—Ordered.—Adjourned.

House of Lords, Murch 17.— The Earl of Shaftesbury presented a petition from Waterford against the insolvent debtors' act.

Lord Ellenborough presented a similar petition from John Smith, of Rugby, in Warwickshire.

The bills on the table were forwarded one stage, and the house adjourned.

House of Commons, March 17.—Petitions were presented against the insolvent debtors' act—for the consolidation of the London sewers acts—against the coal duty—against any alteration in the sugar duty, from Ireland.

The London bridge bill was read a second time, and committed.

Dr. Phillimore postponed his motion for a committee on the marriage act amendment bill.

Bill for the better division of

counties read a second time, and committed.

The King's property bill was read a third time, and passed.

The Chuncellor of the Exchequer moved the third reading of the national debt reduction bill.

It was opposed by Mr. Hume and others.

Mr. G. Bennet moved as an amendment, that the bill be read that day six months, which was negatived by 109 against 59.

Mr. Baring proposed as an amendment, that the sinking fund be limited to three millions of real surplus, which was negatived by 100 against 72.

The bill was then passed.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved, that the order of the day be then read for the house resolving itself into a committee, to consider farther of the supply to be granted to his Majesty. The order was read accordingly.

On the question, that the Speaker do now leave the chair.

Mr. Creevey said, that understanding that when the Speaker left the chair, it was the intention of an honourable gentleman opposite to bring forward the ordnance estimates, he should take the opportunity of calling the attention of the house to a point very intimately connected with them. Gentlemen would have observed, that in those estimates there was un item of 24,412l. for the erection and repair of fortifications and other public works in Barbadoes. As it had repeatedly fallen to his lot to call the attention of the house to this subject, he should confine himself on the present occasion to a repetition of the main facts and arguments which he had formerly advanced. Having

gone

gone over those several facts, he moved as an amendment the fol-

lowing resolutions:—

"Resolved, That it appears to this house, from the estimate laid before it for the service of the ordnance for the present year, there is a sum of 24,412l. for erecting and repairing fortifications in the island of Barbadoes.

"That by an act of the colonial assembly of Barbadoes, which was passed in the year 1668, it was enacted, that, for the purpose of ' maintaining the reparation of the forts, the building of a sessions house, and a prison, and all other public charges incumbent on the government there, an impost or custom upon all dead commodities of the growth of the island, and to be shipped off the same, should be paid to his majesty, his heirs and successors, for ever, after the following rate or manner, that is to say, 4½ in specie for every 5

"That it further appears from the journals of this house, that, in the first year of her majesty Queen Anne, a petition was presented to it from the planters and merchants concerned in the island of Barbadoes, setting forth the colonial act of Barbadoes before referred to, and praying 'that the said duty of 41 per centum might be applied to the reparation and building of fortifications, and defraying all charges incident to the government there, as the same was originally intended, instead of being diverted to other purposes, as the same then was;' and that, in consequence of such petition, the house did address her majesty Queen Anne, praying 'that the duty might be restored to the purposes for which it was created by the colonial act of Barbadoes, and that this house was informed by a message from her majesty that she would give such directions accordingly.'

" That, notwithstanding such specific application of this fund by the colonial act of Barbadoes to the building and repairing of fortifications in that island, and notwithstanding the recognition of that law by this house, and by her majesty Queen Anne, this fund is now for the most part consumed by pensioners in this country, including even members of this house or their families, whilst the fortifications and other public works of Barbadoes are left to be maintained by money raised from taxes on the people; and that, under all the circumstances above stated, and adverting likewise to the present afflicting condition of a great portion of these kingdoms, this house considers it to be alike due to its own character and to the feelings of the people, humbly to request his majesty to give directions that the said duty of 45 per centum in the island of Barbadoes may be again restored to the original purposes for which it was created."

Which was negatived by 86 against 56.

On re-entering the gallery, we found the house in committee of

supply, and

Mr. R. Ward bringing forward the ordnance estimates. The hongentleman, after briefly stating that, upon every vote demanded, except one, there would appear a diminution from the grant of last year, detailed the sums he asked for, in the following order:—Ordinary, 460,374l.; extraordinaries, 269,464l.; unprovided, 10,661l.; super-

superannuated, military, 318,1521.; superannuated, civil, 50,074l.; Ireland, 90,313l. The differences between the grants of the present year and the last year were-ordinary, 13,1021. less; extraordinaries, 23,279l. less; unprovided, 776l. more; superannuated, military, 1,599l. less; superannuated, civil, 1,478l. less; Ireland, 6,316l. less. The total sum required this year was 1,199,000l. The reduction from last year's amount was Then, deduct 45.000L 1,199,000L, the sum required this year, savings in 1820 and 1821, 88,000l., and presumed amount of **sale** of old stores, &c. 91,000*l.*, and the amount which the house would have to vote stood reduced to 1,070,000l. being less than the last year's vote by 130,000/.

48,000l. for the expense of the establishments of the Tower and buildings in Pall-mall. 7,000% for the royal laboratories. 8,585l. for salaries and increased salaries and allowances for persons employed in the civil establishments of the ordnance of the first class. 12.271*l*. for salaries and increased salaries of persons employed in the civil establishment of the second class. 812,095L 19s. for salaries, and increased salaries for length of service, to officers of the civil establishment. 241,235l. 8s. 9d. for the pay of the royal regiment of artillery. 29,435l. 7s. for the royal horse artillery and riding home troop, and 2,999l. 10s. for the field-train department. 6,9371. 5s. 9d. for the pay of the medical establishment of the military department of the ordnance. 6,059l. 10s. 3d. for the royal military academy at Woolwich. 1,466l. for treasury and exchequer fees. 140,464l. for extraordinaries.—

97,839l. 5s. 5d. for the ordnance in Ireland. 307,401l. 4s. 6d. for allowances to superannuated, retired, and half-pay officers, and pensions to widows. 10,751l. 2s. 1d. for the same head of service in Ireland. 43,817l. 10s. 2d. for retired allowances to civil officers; 6,256l. 13s. 3d. for the same service in Ireland. 100,000l. was proposed for barracks. — Agreed to.

The house resumed, and the report was ordered to be received to-morrow.

On the motion of Mr. Wallace, the warehousing bill was read a second time.—It was ordered to be committed on Friday next.

The reports of the committees of ways and means and supply were received, and agreed to.

The other orders of the day were then read and postponed, and the house adjourned.

House of Lords, March 18.— The Earl of Liverpool laid upon the table, by his Majesty's command, an additional article to the treaty between this country and the King of the Netherlands, relative to the slave-trade; also papers relative to the supply of stationery in Ireland.— Ordered to be printed.

The King's property and national debt reduction bills, were read the first time.

The yeomanry corps and lime exemption from toll bills were read the second time. The Irish arms bill went through a committee, and was reported without any amendments.—Adjourned till tomorrow.

House of Commons, March 18.—
On the motion of Sir R. Wilson, accounts were ordered of all sums paid in shape of fees, &c. at the

court

court of requests, Southwark, from the 1st of August 1809, to the same month 1810.

Mr. Canning presented papers to the house, which, he said, related to the slave-trade. country had a subsisting treaty with his majesty the King of the Netherlands for the abolition of that traffic: and two additional articles had lately been added to the treaty, as would be seen from the papers which he presented by command of his Majesty. The first additional article to the late treaty was to render the circumstance of one slave being found on board adequate proof of the fact of a slave voyage, and to facilitate the reception of oral testimony for the condemnation of the parties; and the second article was to make the proof of the fitting up of a slave-ship evidence of her having been engaged in that traffic. King of the Netherlands had acceded to both articles, and a formal exchange of them had taken place. The government of Spain had also adopted them. He was extremely sorry, in the discharge of his duty, to add, that to neither of the articles had the Portuguese government given their concurrence. At present he should content himself with moving that these papers be printed.—Ordered accordingly.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer called the attention of the house to his Majesty's present of his majesty's late father's library to the nation, and after remarking upon the splendour and munificence of the gift, moved that the papers relating thereto (the letters and the treasury minute) be referred to a select committee to examine the matter thereof, and to report to the house.

He was seconded by Sir W. de Crespigny, and supported by some

other gentlemen: the first resolution was, however, negatived by 94 against 48; and the rest without a

di vision.

Mr. Jones moved for leave to bring in a bill to enlarge and ex-

The motion was seconded by Sir C. Long.

The committee was then ap-

pointed.

Mr. Maberly moved the following resolutions. The hon. gentleman then read the following resolutions, and concluded by moving that the first be adopted:—

"1. That all duties on windows, imposed by 48 Geo. III. and subsequent acts, shall cease and deter-

mine.

- "2. That all duties on inhabited houses, imposed by 48 Geo. III. and subsequent acts, shall cease and determine.
- "S. That all duties on male servants, imposed by 48 Geo. III. and subsequent acts, shall cease and determine.
- " 4. That all duties on licences to coachmakers, and on four and two-wheeled carriages, (except on taxed carts,) imposed by 48 Geo. III. and subsequent acts, shall cease and determine.
- " 5. That all duties on taxed carts, imposed by 48 Geo. III. and subsequent acts, shall cease and determine.
- " 6. That all duties on horses, ponies, and mules, imposed by 48 Geo. III. and subsequent acts. shall cease and determine.
- "7. That all agreements compound for duties with the commissioners of assessed taxes. under the 59 Geo III. and subsequent acts, shall cease and determine."

tend

tend the powers of the judges of the several courts of great sessions in Wules, and to amend the laws relating to the same.

Lord A. Hamilton gave notice, that to-morrow se'nnight he should move the abolition of the courts of inferior commissaries in Scotland.

Mr. Peter Moore moved for leave to bring in a bill to repeal the several acts called the insolvent debtors' acts.

After some conversation, in which Lord Althorp, the Solicitor-General, and others, opposed the motion, it was withdrawn by consent.

Dr. Phillimore asked leave to bring in a bill to repeal an existing statute which subjected a clergyman to five pounds penalty if he omitted to read the act of parliament against profane swearing four times a year in his parish church. Leave was then given to bring in the bill.

Mr. Hume rose to move for papers connected with the income and

expenditure of Ireland.

1st. For an account of the gross and net revenue of Ireland for the year ending the 5th of January, 1823, and of her total expense for the same year.

2d. For a return of the exports and imports of the port of Dublin for ten years preceding the year 1801, distinguishing the amount of each year; and for the same account for the ten years preceding the year 1823.

3d. For a return of the tonnage of all vessels cleared outwards and entered inwards at all ports in Ireland, distinguishing the amount as to Dublin, for the ten years prior to 1801, and for the ten years also prior to 1823.

4th. For the account of all fees

received in the council-office, and in the chief secretary's office, for the last two years.

5th. For an account of all fees paid during the last five years, by the government of Ireland, to the attorney-general, the solicitor-general, and the rest of the crown counsel of that country.—Ordered to be laid on the table.

The mutiny bill was read a third time, and passed.

The report of the committee of supply on the ordnance estimates was then brought up.

Mr. Hume rose for the purpose of protesting against the scale on which the ordnance estimates had been framed.

The house resolved itself into a committee on the Irish grand jury presentment bill.

After a few words from Sir John Newport, the house resumed, and the report was ordered to be received on the 9th of April.

The house also went into a committee on the marriage act repeal bill.

The house then resumed, and the report was ordered to be received to-morrow.

The Irish tithe commutation bill was brought up, as amended, read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time on the 21st of April next.

Mr. Hume gave notice, that he should to-morrow move for a return of the number of persons who had been prosecuted for blasphemous libels.

The Welsh judges' jurisdiction bill was read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time on the 18th of April next.

Mr. Brogden presented a petition from Oxford against the insolvent debtors' bill.

Mr. Goulburn presented copies

of a correspondence between the government of Ireland, the judges, and the commissioners of inquiry.

—Laid on the table. Also copies of the bills of indictment preferred against the Dublin rioters.—Ordered to be printed. He also presented copies of orders in council relative to apprentices on board British merchant vessels. — Adjourned.

House of Lords, March 19.— The royal assent was given by commission to the assessed taxes' repeal (Ireland), assessed taxes' reduction, transfer of aids, Scotch creditors, and Chancellor of the Exchequer's (Ireland) bills.

chequer s (Treiand) onis.

Several petitions were presented against the insolvent debtors' act.

Marquis Camden presented a petion from Rolvenden in Kent, complaining of distress.—Ordered to lie on the table.

The Marquis of Lansdown thought that after the failure of negotiation with France and Spain to avert the war, the whole of the papers relating thereto should be laid upon the table.

The Earl of Liverpool entirely agreed with the noble marquis, and said it was the intention of his Majesty's government so to do.

The bills on the table were forwarded one stage.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, March 19.— The Shadwell church bill was read a second time. Petitions were presented against hawkers and pedlars—the cottage tax at Dumbarton—the repeal of the Union duties, from the potteries of Armagh—the local taxation of Dublin—the equalization of the duties of East and West India sugar, from the West Indies—tax upon coals.—insolvent debtors' act.

Mr. Wilberforce presented a pe-1823. tition from the society of Friends for the gradual abolition of slavery.

The petition was ordered to be

printed.

Mr. Canning asked whether it was the intention of the hon. member to found any motion upon the petition.

Mr. Wilberforce said that it was not, but that such was the intention of an honourable friend of his.

Mr. F. Buxton then gave notice that on the 22d of April he would submit a motion, that the house should take into consideration the state of slavery in the British colonies.

Mr. S. Rice moved, "That the 9th and 11th reports of the commissioners appointed to examine into the courts of justice in Ireland, the letters of the lord chief baron, and some other papers on the subject of those reports, be referred to a select committee, who were to report their opinions and observations thereon to the house." The motion was agreed to nem. con., and the committee appointed.

Mr. Hume, adverting to the number of prosecutions which had been instituted by a society calling itself the Constitutional Association. and the Society for the suppression of Vice, who had, he observed, usurped the province of the king's attorney-general, wished for a return of the number of such pro-He would not go into secutions any details at present, as his motion was only preliminary to a future discussion. He then moved for "a return of the number of individuals prosecuted by indictment, information, or other process in England, Scotland, and Wales, from the 31st of December, 1812, to the 31st of December, 1822, distindistinguishing the following particulars-whether prosecuted by the king's attorney or solicitor general, or by any other person or party; whether the offence was libel, sedition, or blasphemy; the name and residence of the individual prosecuted; the county in which the prosecution took place; and whether the party was tried; if tried, whether convicted; the date of the conviction; also the sentence and its date; the time when the party was released from confinement; and if not released, the reason why detained."

The motion was then put, and

agreed to.

The house, upon the motion of Mr. Lushington, having resolved itself into a committee of supply, a vote of 602,000l. was proposed for the army extraordinaries of the vear 1823. 253,000*l*. for the commissariat department of Great Britain. 82,000l. for the commissariat of Ireland. 1,100,000l. for payment of the interest of exchequer bills. 40,000l. for public works and for the repair of public buildings. 5,000l. for defraying the expense of prosecutions for coining, year in the 1822. 25,000L for defraying law charges. 62,000/. for defraying the expense of convicts at home. 18,000% was voted for the establishment of the Penitentiary at Millbank. 3,000% in support of the national vaccine establishment. 40,000l. to meet certain bills drawn by his majesty's governors and others (in conformity with the orders in council of 1808 and 1817) for defraying expenses incidental to the abolition of the slave-trade for the year 22,650l. to make good the deficiency in the fee-fund of the treasury department. 15,000l. for

making good the deficiency in the fee-fund of the home secretary's department. 20,5881. for ditto in the foreign secretary's depart-13.368L for ditto in the ment. colonial secretary's department. 16,086L for ditto in the department of his majesty's privy council and board of trade. 10,000L for contingent expenses, and the payment of messengers' bills in the treasury department. 10,996l. for contingent expenses and messengers' bills in the home secretary's department. 39,026l. for ditto in the foreign secretary's department. 1,8721. for ditto in the colonial secretary's department. for contingent expenses and messengers' bills in the lord chamberlain's department (this last vote was for the present withdrawn.) 5,250 for defraying the salaries of officers in the receipt of exchequer. 9.0401. for the salaries of the commissioners and clerks of the insolwent debtors' court. 1.058*l.* 5si for professors at the universities of Oxford and Cambridge for reading 15,446L for expenses of lectures. the house of lords and house of commons. 28,237L for salaries of the officers of the houses of lords and commons. 4.800% for the lord chamberlain's department. 50,000l. for secret service 10,147*l*. 13*s*. 11*d*. for money. printing, by order of the commissioners for carrying into execution the measures recommended by the house of commons respecting the records of the kingdom. 17,000% for printing acts of parliament. 3,500l. for printing 1750 copies of the 78th volume of the journal of the house of commons. 3,500L for printing votes of the house of commons. 881. 8c. for deficiency in last year's vote. 20,000l. for printing

printing bills, reports, and other 3.000% for reprinting papers. journals. 16,150%. for Toulonese and Corsican emigrants, Dutch naval officers, and St. Domingo sufferers, and 7,000l. for American loyalists. 3,306l. 10s. for confining and maintaining criminal lunatics. 6.736l. 8s. 10d. for allowances to French protestant refugee 10,507l. 16s. 8d. for reclergy. tired allowances to public servents. -These votes were all agreed to with the above single exception.

The house then resumed, and the report was ordered to be brought

up to-morrow.

The merchant vessels' apprentice bill was read a second time.

The Solicitor-General brought up the report of the marriage act repeal bill, and the bill was ordered to be read a third time to-morrow.

The other orders of the day were then read, and the house ad-

iourned.

House of Lords, March 21.—
A person from the treasury presented certain annual accounts.

The bills on the table were for-

warded one stage.

The Esrl of Darnley called their lordships' attention to 'the number of appeal cases then before the bouse (two 'hundred and seventy-six); and thought some measure should be adopted to render justice with less delay: in which he was supported by the Earl of Liverpool.

The national debt reduction bill went through a committee. Ad-

journed.

House of Commons, March 21.— Several petitions were presented.

The Southwark market bill was read a first time.

Sir Robert Wilson moved for a return containing an account of the total land-tax charged on the borough of Southwark from 1819 to 1822, distinguishing the amount, names of parishes, and commissioners for each year; also an account of the number of persons imprisoned under decisions of the court of requests of the said borough, particularly within the hundred of Brixton.—Ordered.

Mr. Hobbouse gave notice, that he would on the 15th of May next, as the earliest possible day after the holidays, submit a motion for the repeal of the window-tax.

Mr. Wallace moved that the warehousing bill go into a committee, which after some discussion was carried by 82 against 8.—House resumed. Report ordered on Monday.

On the motion of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the house resolved itself into a committee apon the beer duties acts.—House resumed. Report ordered to-morrow.

The other orders of the day were disposed of, and the house ad-

journed.

House of Lords, March 24.—
The royal assent was given by commission to the annual mutiny, the marine mutiny, the yeomanny (Ireland), and the arms (Ireland) bills; also to the Plymouth gaslight, the Portman-square improvement, and several other private bills. The commissioners were the Lord Chancellow, the Barl of Skaflesbury, and Lord Melville.

Petitions were presented against the turnpike act—the coal duties the insolvent debtors' act, and from the West Indies complaining' of colonial distress.

The Earl of Aberdeen moved for an amended return of the number of appeals.—Ordered.

The Earl of Liver, vol said, there was another account which it would

12

be desirable to have, and that was the number of days which the house had sat on English, Scotch, and Irish appeals, respectively: which he would move for on some future day.

The Earl of Liverpool moved the third reading of the national

debt reduction bill.

The Marquis of Lansdown said, that agreeably to the intimation which he had given, and in order to make the bill what; it professed to be, a measure for the relief of posterity, he should move, as an amendment, that 5,000,000l. should be left out, and 3,000,000l. be inserted instead.

The Earl of Darnley differed from his noble friend as to the amount of surplus; he did believe there was a surplus of 5,000,000l. but he should vote for the amendment of his noble friend, in the hope that 2,000,000l. of it might be applied to the reduction of taxation.

The Marquis of Lansdown said, there was at present a sum of 5,000,000l. disposable, because 2,000,000l. of stock had been created.

The Earl of Liverpool, Lord King, and Lord Bexley, afterwards spoke.

The amendment was then put, negatived without a division, and the bill read a third time, and passed.

The Earl of Liverpool moved the third reading of the King's property bill.

Lord Ellenborough begged now to ask the noble and the learned lord on the woolsack for his opinion on the question, whether his Majesty could dispose of the personal chattels of the Crown without an act of parliament. The Lord Chancellor replied at some length in the affirmative.

After a few words from Lord Redesdale in support of the principle of the bill, it was read a third time.

Messengers from the commons brought up the marriage act amendment bill, with amendments, to which their lordships agreed, and the house adjourned.

House of Commons, March 24.—
Petitions were presented complaining of agricultural distress—against the duties on coals—the hawkers and pedlars bill.

Sir J. Newport brought in a bill to provide for the better regulation of the office and elections of county treasurers in Ireland.—Read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

Sir T. Lethbridge gave notice, that on Monday, the 3d of May next, he would submit a motion relative to agricultural distress.

It was moved that the report of the committee of supply on the miscellaneous estimates be brought up.—The report was then brought up, and its several items agreed to.

The report of the beer trade bill was brought up, and the house assented to its resolution.

The report of the merchants' vessels' apprentice bill was also brought up.

The report of the warehousing bill was read.—Bill ordered to be recommitted.

The house then formed itself into a committee.

Mr. Wallace proposed a clause to prevent French watches coming into the market with English marks. And also an amendment, that if any bettling of wines took place in the docks, it should be in English bottles. — Both these clauses were agreed to.

The house resumed, the report was received, and the bill ordered to be read a third time on the 21st of April.

The grants in aids bill was read a second time. To be committed to-morrow.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer gave notice, that he would on Wednesday next move an address to his Majesty on the subject of a monument to be erected to Earl St. Vincent and Lord Duncan.

Mr. W. Williams obtained leave to bring in a bill "to regulate the right of voting at borough elections, arising from real property, and to prevent occasionality."

Mr. Cripps obtained leave to bring in a bill to increase the power of magistrates in cases of apprenticeship.

Sir J. Boughey stated it to be his intention to move for leave to bring in a bill of a similar description, but differing from it in some points.

Mr. M. A. Taylor inquired, whether the bill of the honourable gentleman (Mr. Cripps) related to only parish apprentices, or included those bound by contract and indenture.

Mr. Cripps said, it would apply to all apprentices.

Mr. Sykes obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the act of 7 Geo. III. c. 21, relative to quorum magistrates in cities and towns corporate.

Colonel Barry rose to move for the production of certain papers of great importance, as they respected the discussion which was to take place in that house on the 15th of next month. The house would see, when they came to that discussion,

that all the documents tended to throw a light on this transaction, by bringing the whole of the circumstances fairly forward. documents he should move for in the first instance were, "Copies of information on which the commitments of certain persons to the gaol of Newgate, Dublin, for a conspiracy to murder the lord lieutenant, were founded." honourable member then detailed the circumstances of the riot.-The house divided, when there appeared for the motion —Ayes, 32 -Noes, 48,-majority, 16.

Colonel Barry then moved for the production of a copy of the recognizances into which the prisoners had entered; and also of the rule of court calling upon them to enter into such recognizances.

The motion was then put, and carried; as was also a motion for the list of the witnesses examined on the late state trials at Dublin.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, that as the act of the last session had only given the trustees of naval and military pensions the power of making agreements for the sale of them from year to year, and as by some inexplicable omission it had not given them the power of making an agreement for the sale of them for a term of years, he now came forward to ask for leave to bring in a bill to remedy that omission.—Leave was then given to bring in the bill. It was accordingly brought in, and read a first time.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the house adjourned.

House of Lords, March 25.— The Duke of Northumberland presented a petition from Newcastleuponupon-Tyne, against the insolvent debtors' act.

The Earl of Kingston moved for a return of the number of committals in Ireland under the insurraction act.

House of Commons, March 25.—Petitions were presented against the present licensing system—the duty on coals—the alteration in the duties of sugars.

A new writ was moved for Lymington, in the place of Sir H. B. Neale.

Mr. Cripps brought in a bill to increase the power of magistrates in apprenticeship cases.

Mr. Pascoe Grenfell gave notice, that on Wednesday the 16th of April, he would move for certain returns, containing an account of the balances of public monies in the Bank of Ireland, and also of the number and amount of Bank notes in circulation at this period.

Mr. Dawson moved that an humble address be presented to his Majesty, praying that his Majesty would be graciously pleased to give directions that there be laid before this house copies of two reports of the Royal Society of London made to the Secretary of State for the Home department respecting the properties of gas, and the gas-light establishment.—Agreed to.

Mr. Hume presented a petition from Cape Breton, complaining of the great injury to their interests in being united with Nova Scotia, and governed by the same laws.—After a debate of some length, in which Mr. Wilmot, Mr. Bernal, and Mr. Bright took part, it was ordered to be printed.

Lord John Russell put a question to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs as to the situation in which England stood with regard to foreign powers,—whether she was bound either directly or indirectly to guarantee the crown of France to Louis XVIII. or any of his successors in the Bourbon family.

Mr. Canning replied that by the existing treaties, a revolution produced in France in favour of the late Emperor Napoleon or any of his family was a casus faderis, which called upon the Allied Powers to take up arms to put it down. case of any other revolution, excited either by means or in favour of any other individuals, there was no other stipulation than this-that the Allied Powers should assemble to concert and consult what measures they ought to take. It was impossible either for him or any other member to state what might be the result of such deliberations.

Mr. Lennard moved an address to the Crown for "a return of any decrease of the expense in the third class of the civil hist since the 2d of May, 1822, atting whether such decrease had been occasioned by any diminution of the number of persons employed, by the alteration of the rank of the persons so employed, or otherwise:" which was opposed by Mr. Cansing and Mr. Hushisson, and supported by Lard J. Russell, Mr. Hume, and Sir F. Bundett.—It was negatived by 50 against 24.

Mr. Grey Bennet moved for certain papers connected with the proceedings of a military court of inquiry held in the year 1818 upon Lieutenant-Colonel Home.—The motion was rejected.

Mr. Wilmet moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the laws relating to Newfoundland.—Leave given.

Dr. Lushington moved "for leave to bring in a bill to consolidate.

date, amend, and declare certain general enactments relating to the crime of forgery."—Leave given.

The Lord Advocate obtained leave to bring in a bill for the better regulation of the Sheriffs' Courts in Scotland.

General Gascoyne moved "for a copy of the warrant dated March 6, 1820, directing officers on half-pay, and widows and orphans of officers receiving allowances in Ireland, to be paid in Irish currency."

Lord Palmerston then submitted a similar motion for copies of warrants, dated severally the 25th of October, 1812, and the 16th of May, 1815, relating to half-pay pensions.—Ordered.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved for leave to bring in a bill to consolidate "the several boards of customs and the several boards of excise in Great Britain and Ireland."

Sir J. Newport said that the plan of the right hon, gentleman met with his entire concurrence. He hailed it as a most beneficial measure, and was sure that it would prove particularly advantageous to the commercial interest.

Leave was then given to bring in the bill.

Dr. Lushington moved for and obtained leave to bring in a bill for facilitating the examination of witnesses in foreign countries.

Mr. F. Buston moved for copies of all the correspondence which had taken place between the Court of Directors of the East India Company and the Government of India relative to the existence of slavery in the British possessions in India.—Ordered.

The same hon member moved for copies of the communications which had been received by the East India Company since July 10, 1821, respecting the burning of females in India.

The prison bill received some verbal amendments suggested by Mr. F. Buxton, was read a third time, and passed.

The other orders of the day being disposed of, the house adjourned.

House of Lords, March 26.—The Royal assent was given by commission to the national debt reduction, the King's property, and the marriage act repeal bills: the commissioners were the Lord Chancellor, the Duke of Montrose, and the Earl of Shaftesbury.

The Earl of Kingston presented a petition from Sligo, complaining of the tolls which they were obliged to pay, and also of a breach of their charter.

Lord King presented a petition from Reading against the debtors' act.

The Lord Chancellor pledged himself that if a bankrupt law did not originate in the other house, he would bring one forward soon after the recess.

Lord Liverpool laid on the table dispatches from the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland to the right hon. Robert Peel.

Some conversation took place between the Earl of Liverpool, Earl Grey, the Earl of Darnley, and Lord Melville, upon the subject of sundry papers relating to the negotiations which had been carried on upon the subject of the differences between France and Spain, which papers the Earl of Liverpool proposed to lay upon the table, on Monday, 14th April.

Earl Grey said, he was not desirous of prolonging this discussion, but there was one word used by the noble Earl (Liverpool) of which he

should

should be glad to have an explanation. The noble Earl said there was not any secret article which contravened the engagements of the public treaties; what he would ask was this—were there any secret articles which extended or gave greater force to those engagements?

The Earl of Liverpool said, he had no besitation in answering the noble lord in his own words—that there was no secret article to extend or give greater force to the engagements which would be found in the papers in the possession of the house.

The conversation then dropped, and the house adjourned to the 10th

of April next.

House of Commons, March 26.— The Speaker was summoned to attend in the House of Lords, to hear the Royal assent given by commission to several private and other bills.

Petitions were presented against the Roman Catholic claims—the insolvent debtors' act—the representation of Sligo—the taxation of Dublin—the injury sustained by alterations in the currency—the Irish linen duties.

Mr. Dawson laid on the table the reports of the Rayal Society relating to gas.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. S. Rice brought in a bill for the better regulation of charitable loan societies in Ireland.—Read a first, and to be read a second time on the 14th of April.

Mr. Croker postponed his motion relating to the British Museum.

Mr. Hume presented a petition from Mary Anne Carlile, praying for a remittance of her fine.—After a very long argument, in which the Attorney-General, Sir T. D. Acland, Mr. Peel, Sir F. Burdett, Mr. Willerforce, and Mr. Wynne took

part, the petition was ordered to be printed.

Mr. Canning rose to name the precise day on which he would lay before the house the course of policy which his Majesty's government had been pursuing with respect to foreign powers. The first open day after the recess would be, he believed, the 14th of April; and by that day he should probably have received the King's commands to lay the necessary documents upon the table of the house. Being upon his legs, the right bon, gentleman continued, he would just beg to confirm an answer which he had given on the sudden to a question the last evening. Upon an accurate examination of all the treaties by which the English government was bound, he found that his answer of the preceding evening, although given on the instant, had been perfectly correct; -there was no obligation existing between this country and France, or with respect to France, other than was to be found in the treaties laid upon the table of Parliament at the conclusion of the war-treaties which, of course, were open to the general inspection of honourable members. The obligations which did exist were contained in two stipulations—the one rather of a negative than of a positive character, to wit, "that the Allies should resist the occupation of the throne of France by any part of the Buonaparte family;" and the ether, that "in case of any revolutionary movements taking place in France, the Allies should consult and concert with each other"what was to be the result of such consultation not being in any way stated.

Sir Robert Wilson begged to know whether

whether the first stipulation meationed went distinctly to the exclusion of the whole Buonaparte family. He himself had only been able to find a stipulation against the occupation of Napoleon Buonaparts.

Mr. Canning said that the agreement, as he had stated it, would be found in the treaty of Paris of the year 1815.

Mr. Warre believed that he perfectly understood the statement of the right hon. gentleman (Mr. Canning); if so, it referred peculiarly to the treaty of Paris of the year 181*5*. Would the right hon. gent. then allow him to ask (in order that he might distinctly see the situation of the country) whether any thing had taken place at Aix-la-Chapelle in the year 1818 to alter the position or relations which had been established in 1815? He knew. generally, the nature of the transactions in 1818, the protocol, the declaration, and avowal of the sentiments of the English government, and of the Allies; but he wished to ask if any thing had taken place at Aix-la-Chapelle, in the way of agreement or stipulation on the part of this country, beyond a confirmation of the treaties of 1815?

Mr. Canning replied distinctly, that the country stood upon the treaties alluded to, of the year 1815. He had merely troubled the house upon the subject, because, having on the preceding evening answered from memory upon a very complicated question, he thought it right to say, that, upon examination, he found that he had answered correctly.

Lord A. Hamilton moved for leave to bring in a bill to abolish the inferior commissary courts in Scotland.—Leave given.

Lord A. Hamilton afterwards

moved "that there be laid before the house, a copy of any warrant, granted by the Crown, in the year 1822, authorizing any person or persons to elect magistrates in the borough of Inverness, in the room of those recently displaced by process of law."—The house divided, for the motion 31, against it 49.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer on his legs. He said, that by an order of the house made about two years ago, it was declared that no address to the Crown, having relation to any expenditure of public money, should be considered, except in a committee of the whole house. In conformity with this order, he should now therefore move, that the house resolve itself into a committee, for the purpose of considering of an address to his Majesty, praying him to give directions for the erection of two public monuments, to the memory of the late Earl St. Vincent and Lord Duncan.

The Speaker having left the chair, and the house being in committee.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved "that an humble address be presented to his Majesty, praying that he would be graciously pleased to give directions for erecting, in the cathedral church of St. Paul, a monument to the memory of John Earl St. Vincent, as a testimony of his distinguished eminence in the naval service of his country, and as a particular memorial of the important victory which he gained over the Spanish fleet off Cape St. Vincent, on the 14th of February, 1797."

The next resolution, worded in a similar manner to the foregoing, proposed, "that his Majesty should give directions for the erection of a monument in St. Paul's, in commemoration moration of the victory gained by Lord Duncan over the Dutch fleet, on the 11th of October, 1797."

Sir I. Coffin and Sir G. Cockburn expressed their perfect concurrence in the motion, and eulogized the character and talents of Earl St. Vincent.

The resolutions were then agreed to, and the house resumed.

The military and naval pensions bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed on the 10th of April.

Mr. Huskisson moved for leave to bring in a bill to consolidate the existing acts relative to the registration of shipping. He would not, at that late hour, enter into a statement of the alterations which he intended to propose; that he would do at a future stage of the measure. He would content himself with stating that his object was to obviate the difficulties which were attendant on the execution of the existing acts.

Dr. Lushington approved of the intention of the right honourable

gentleman.

Sir G. Cockburn took the opportunity of informing the house, that government had on that day received information of the manner in which the pirates, who had been captured in Jamaica, had been disposed of. Three of them had been executed; two others had been condemned to death, one of whom was pardoned on account of the humanity he had displayed towards English prisoners, and the other was respited, in order to afford him an opportunity of proving an alibi.

Mr. Hume asked whether the men who had been executed had been punished for recent depreda-

ions.

Sir G. Cockburn replied that they

had not. There had been no recent depredations committed.

Leave was given to bring in the bill.—The house adjourned.

House of Commons, March 27.— Mr. Curwen moved for a return of the number of gallons of spirit distilled in Ireland in the years 1821 and 1822, and down to the present period of 1823; and of the amount of duties paid upon the same.—Ordered.

Petitions were presented against the coal duties, and from the secretaries of the grand jury of Monaghan, Ireland, for an increase

of salary.

Sir J. Newport brought up the report on the Irish county treasurers' bill. The farther consideration of the report was fixed for the 14th of April, and the bill, as amended, was ordered to be printed.

Mr. Thomas Courtency brought in a hill to amend the laws relative to the maintenance and support of the poor.—Read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time on the 28th of April.

Mr. T. Courtenuy moved for a variety of returns connected with oru trade to the East Indies and

China: among others, for

"An account of the shipping, number of ships, and amount of tonnage cleared outwards and inwards, from Great Britain to the East Indies and China, and from China and the East Indies to Great Britain, for the three years last past, ending the 5th of January 1823."—Ordered.

"An account of the exports of all goods exported in such shipping to the East Indies and China, during the last three years, ending 5th of January, 1823, distinguishing the exports to China from

those

those to the East Indies."—Ordered.

" An account of all British manufactured goods exported by the East India company, during the same period, to the East Indies, distinguishing those exported as merchandise for sale, from those exported as stores."-Ordered.

"An account of all goods, the produce of China or India, imported into England, during the three years ending 5th of January 1823, and afterwards exported, distinguishing the produce of China from that of India," &c. &c. -Ordered.

On the motion of Mr. Sykes, a bill to amend the act of George III., respecting justices of the quorum, was read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time on the 14th of April.

Mr. Alderman Wood moved that there be laid before the house a copy of Mr. Trimmer's letter to the commissioners of woods and forests, respecting certain slatequarries in the possession of-Dawkins, Esq.—Motion agreed to.

Mr. Masterton Ure ( having adopted the recommendation of Mr. Hume to insert the words, "and the amount of bounty paid for the same," moved for the following return :-- "An account of the quantities of herrings and other fish exported from Great Britain to the West Indies, during the last ten years, prior to the lat of January 1823, distinguishing each species of fish, and the quantities, the ports from whence they were exported, the places to which they were so exported, and the amount of bounty paid for the same; also, a like account of the exports of fish from Ireland to the West India islands, and the amount of bounty paid thereon."-Ordered. Mr. Birch moved for returns. containing an account of the customs' duty paid upon raw and thrown silk, from the 5th of Jamuary 1822 to the 5th of January 1823; also for an account of the amount of drawback allowed on the export, during the same period, of such goods.-Ordered.

Sir Robert Wilson presented a petition from Southwark against West India slavery, which the honourable member supported by

an eloquent speech.

After a few words from Mr. Canning and Mr. W. Smith, the petition was ordered to be printed.

Mr. Canning moved that the house adjourn to this day fortnight.

Lord A. Hansilton rose to object to the motion: he thought, under the peculiar circumstances of the country, and of the Continent, the adjournment too long, and moved as an amendment that this house do adjourn till Monday se'nnight.

In this he was supported by Mr. James Mardonald and Mr. Warre.

.The question was then put, and the amendment was negatived.

On the question that the landtax commissioners' bill be read a second time,

Mr. Hume said a few words, expressive of his wish that the treasury should immediately instruct the commissioners that none of their clerks should, in future, receive any of the undue, illegal, and improper fees hitherto taken. Both the commissioners and their clerks were liable to prosecution in every parish where the exaction was made.

After which the bill was read a second time.

On the bringing up of the report upon the monuments to Earl St. Vincent and Lord Duncan, Mr. Hume remarked upon the extortionate charge for admission at Westminster Abbey.

The beer duties bill being in

committee.

Mr. Bernal begged to ask whether the houses which sold the new beer were to be liable to the billeting of soldiers, and whether their shop-windows were to be exempted from the window-tax. If the new beer shops were to have this double exemption, the keepers of public-houses would feel themselves hardly dealt by.

Mr. Lushington said that the trade of the beer shops would not be such as to claim exemption for their shop-windows; but soldiers certainly would not be billeted upon them.

Mr. Lennard gave notice, that he should move on the 22d of April, for a committee on the subject of the county court of Mid-

Mr. Hume gave notice, on the part of Sir Henry Parnell, of a motion relating to steam-boats, for the 22d of April.

The house adjourned to Thurs-

day the 10th of April.

## CHAPTER III.

The Catholic Question.—Irish First Fruits.—Crown Prisoners.—Registry of Vessels Bill. - Military and Naval Pension Bill. - Irish Estimates. –Militia Reduction Bill: — Foreign Affairs.— Attorney-General of Ireland .- The Foreign Enlistment Bill .- Catholic Claims .- Miscellaneous Estimates .- Game Laws .- State of the Navy .- Parliamentary Reform .- Dublin Grand Jury .- Master and Apprentices Bill .- Bill to repeal Whipping .- Beer Bill .- Dismission of Mr. White .- Sundry Petitions, &c. &c.

HOUSE of Lords, April 10.— Petitions were presented against the insolvent debtors' act - the duty on coals-and for a commutation of tithes in Ireland.

A person from the office of the chief secretary for Ireland presented annual accounts. - Ad-

journed till to-morrow.

House of Commons, April 10.— Petitions were presented against the tax upon stones carried coastwise in Scotland—the coal tax—the insolvent debtors' act-the repeal of the Union acts relating to cotton manufacturers, and also to glassthe local taxation of Dublin.

Mr. Western moved for a return of the amount of duties raised on exciseable articles in the years 1792 and 1822 respectively, and the aggregate of both years.-Ordered.

Lord Hotham asked the Attorney-General for Ireland whether it was his intention to bring forward the motion relative to the Catholic question at the time for which

which his notice stood—namely, the 17th instant. The right hon. and learned gentleman must be aware that many members of the house had been put to considerable inconvenience on a former occasion by the postponement of a similar motion, and on the present occasion many persons entertained doubts whether the question would be brought forward at the time for which it was at present fixed.

Sir J. Newport brought forward his motion respecting the revenue arising from the first fruits of the elergy of Ireland. He commenced his observations by stating, that at the time of the Reformation. when the papal power was abolished, and the King was declared the head of the church, the first fruits or annates of all ecclesiastical benefices were annexed to the revenues of the crown. He showed that they continued to be so taken till the reign of Queen Anne, when she, by a royal charter, granted them to the church of Ireland, for the purpose of building glebe houses, and augmenting the poor livings in that country. He then complained that these first fruits, being taken at the valor beneficiorum which was made in the reign of Henry VIII., were totally inadequate for the purposes to which they were applied. At present they did not produce more than 2901. a year; whereas, if properly rated, he contended that they would produce from 30,000l. to 40,000l. a year. A revenue of that amount would fully answer all the purposes of Queen Anne's grant, and would render it unnecessary for ministers to come down annually to parliament to ask it for large sums of money to build glebe houses, and augment

poor livings. Whilst these funds were in existence, ministers were not defensible in asking, and parliament was not warranted in granting large sums annually for either the erection of glebe houses, or the augmentation of poor livings. He knew that, in several intences, many parishes had been united into one in order to save the expense of erecting a glebe house in each; and the result was visible in the decay, not of the protestant establishment, but of the protestant population in Ireland. That point was fully established by comparing the late census of the protestant and catholic population for the diocess of Ossory, with a census made by the bishop of that diocese in the year 1731. He would tell them what the comparative results were in one parish. In 1731 it contained 64 protestants, and 613 In 1818 it contained catholics. 5 protestants and 2,500 catholics. The house could not be surprised at this result, when he informed them, that, owing to these unions of parishes, some of them were upwards of thirty miles long. The right honourable baronet then read a letter from a gentleman in Ireland, who complained that it was quite impossible for him to attend divine worship at his parish church, as he lived seventeen miles from it; and that a friend of his, whose name he mentioned, was also in the same predicament, as he lived exactly seventeen miles on the other side of it. The right hon. baronet then concluded by moving the following resolutions:---

"That the first fruits or annates, being the first year's income of every ecclesiastical dignity and benefice in Ireland, became at the time of the Reformation a part of the

the revenue of the crown, as head of the church, and was rendered payable by instalments, and otherwise regulated by the Irish statute of the 28th Henry VIII., and continued annexed to the royal revenues until the year 1710.

"That her Majesty Queen Anne, as an act of grace and favour to the established church of Ireland, by letters patent, confirmed by subsequent acts of parliament, did then vest in certain trustees and commissioners the produce of this branch of royal revenue, for the purposes of building and repairing churches, for the purchase of the glebes, where wanting, and of impropriations wherever the benefice was not sufficient for the liberal maintenance of the clergy having cure of souls.

"That her said Majesty Queen Anne did at the same time absolutely exonerate and release the elergy of Ireland from the payment of the twentieth parts, or twelve pence in the pound, theretofore payable annually to the crown out of the income of all ecclesiastical benefices.

"That it appears from returns laid before this house, that the grees amount of the first fruit revenue thus vested in trust, as paid in to the treasurer of the beard of commissioners, during ten years, ending in January 1821, amounted only to 3,752l., leaving the net amount of produce, applicable to the valuable purposes of the grant, no more than 2,925l., averaging annually 292l, after the deduction for salaries' and incidental expenses of the board, of 827l.

"That the grants of parliament for building new churches and glebe houses, and the purchase of

glebes in Ireland; during eleven years, ending in 1818, amounted to 498,000l., being an annual average of 45,000l.; and that provision still continues to be made by annual grants for these salutary purposes from the public revenues. · " That four bundred and sixtyseven of the dignities and benefices of Ireland, being nearly one-third part of the whole, have never been rated or valued to the payment of the first fruits, as directed by the statute of Henry VIII.; and that three bundred and thirty-six benefices more, although rated, do not contribute thereto, in consequence of the very early period and the low rates on which the valuation was effected; and that the whole of the archbishoprics, bishoprics, and other ecclesiastical dignities of 'Ireland, are estimated as amounting to only 4,2471. yearly value.

" That the receipt and management of this revenue has been always reserved to and continued in officers appointed by the crown, and that the duties thereof were. by letters patent, in the year 1812, intrusted to certain commissioners. with power, as therein specified, from time to time, to collect, levy, and receive, and to examine and search for the just and true value of all and singular the dignities and benefices of Ireland, but that no valuation appears to have been made under authority of this

"That these resolutions be laid before his Majesty, together with our humble representation, that it appears just and equitable that this branch of royal revenue, liberally bestowed on the church of Ireland for wise and salutary purposes, should be rendered efficacious for the attainment of the objects of

royal

royal bounty, without the necessity of increasing annually the public burdens by parliamentary grants; and that we humbly pray his Majesty may be pleased to authorize and direct the patentees of the crown to proceed forthwith in the execution of such measures as may be deemed necessary for examining and searching for the just and true value of all and singular the dignities and benefices of Ireland, and for rendering all such as shall be found to exceed the annual value of 150l. rateable contributors to the first fruit fund, as vacancies in such dignities and benefices may hereafter take place."

The honourable baronet was opposed by Mr. Goulburn, and the resolutions negatived seriatim.

Sir J. Boughey asked leave to bring in a bill for enlarging the powers of justices of the peace, as to the determination of questions between masters and servants.

Dr. Lushington obtained leave to bring in a bill for consolidating the laws relative to the trade.

Mr. Hume moved for two returns connected with crown prisoners:—the first, a return of the number of persons now confined as crown debtors, distinguishing the amounts of their debts, and the terms during which they had been imprisoned;—the second, a return of the number of persons confined in the Fleet-prison for contempt of court, specifying whether for offence against the court of Chancery, or the court of Exchequer, or against any and what civil or ecclesiastical court; -- an account to be appended to this last return of all persons who had died in prison under confinement for contempt of court, between the

11th of July 1820 and the present time.—Ordered to be produced.

At the suggestion of Mr. Sykes. the second reading of the registry of vessels' bill was postponed until the 18th instant.

Mr. Hume (to complete certain documents before the house) moved for a return of the annual revenue and expenditure of Great Britain, from the 5th of January 1792 to the 5th of January 1798. — Agreed to.

The house then adjourned.

House of Lords, April 11.— Mr. Brogden, accompanied by several other members of the house of commons, brought up the grant of aids and innkeepers' allowance bills, which were read the first time.

A person from the chamber of London presented accounts of the receipt and expenditure of the orphans' fund.

Petitions were presented against the debtors' act.

The Marquis of Lansdown moved for a return of the application of the various sums of money issued by authority of parliament for the relief of the poor of Ireland; and also of the application of sums issued to commissioners for carrying on public works in that country between the 1st January 1822, and the 1st of April, 1828. ordered. —Adjourned.

House of Commons, April 11.-Sir H. Hardinge took the oathe and his seat as member for the

city of Dorham.

A person from the chamber of London presented a return of the amount of the duties composing the orphans' fund.

Petitions were presented against equalizing the duties on East and West India sugars—against grant-

ing

ing concessions to the Roman Catholics—the insolvent debtors' act—for augmenting the duties on hawkers and pedlars licences—against duties on coals carried coast-wise—against the protecting duties on blankets—for a reduction in the number of hackney coaches.

Mr. Sykes gave notice that on 20th of April he should move for a repeal of the duty on candles.

Mr. Wetherell presented a petition from the grand jury of Dublin: it complained "that the attorney-general for Ireland, in his address to the court of King's Bench, Dublin, had imputed to the grand jury that they had been induced to throw out the bills which he had preferred against the rioters, from corrupt motives."—Ordered to be printed.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved the order of the day that the house do resolve itself into a committee on the military and naval pension bill. Several members opposed it, upon the principle that it made the Bank dealers in the funds, and gave a great advantage to it at the cost of the public. The house divided: for the house going into a committee 55—against it 44.

—Report ordered on Monday.

The house then went into a committee of supply on the Irish estimates; when the following items were voted. 17,000*l.* for protestant schools. 14,000*l*. for the promotion of education in Ireland. 27,6721. for foundling hospital in 19,000l. for the asylum, Dublin. the house of industry, and the hospitals in Dublin. 4,500L for the 7,400l. for the lunatic asylum. Hibernian society for the education of soldiers' children. 1,600l. for the Dublin marine society. 1,930% for the female orphan school. 2,680/. for the Westmoreland lock 2,800% for the Dublin hospital. lying-in hospital. 1,400l. for Madam Stephen's hospital, Dublin. the fever hospital. **2.**69*21.* for 300/. for the hospital of incurables. 9281, for the Roman Catholic se-2.000*l*. to the minary. institution. 7,000l. for Cork 9,230*l*. for the Dublin society. building churches and purchase of glebes in Ireland. 10,000*l*. for widening the streets of Dublin. 2.500l. for the farming society. 3001. for the royal Irish academy. 500l. for the office of the commissioners of charitable donations and bequests. 19,938l. 9s. 2d.4 in aid of the linen and hempen manufactures. 16,170l. for the board of works. 17,301 l. for printing and stationery of the chief and under secretaries.

The following vote was postponed at the request of Mr. Rice, viz 8,385l. for the association for discountenancing vice.

The house then resumed, the chairman reported progress. The committee was ordered to sit again on Wednesday.

Mr. Lennard moved for the production of the following papers:-An account of the various contracting prices by the victualling-office. for wheat, flour, beef, pork, butter, and cheese, from 1790 to the present time; an account of the average price of all sorts of grain. from the 5th of January, 1821, to the 5th of Jacuary, 1823, distinguishing each year; an account of the weekly average price of all sorts of grain from the 5th of January, 1823, to the present time, distinguishing each week.—Ordered.—Adjourned.

House of Lords, April 14.—Petitions were presented from Dudley against

against the insolvent debtors' act; from the corporation of Beverley, in Yorkshire, against the catholic claims; and one from D. Nathaniel Highmore, complaining of his not being allowed to practise in the ecclesisatical courts.

The order of the day, in pursuance of which their lordships had been summoned, being read,

The Earl of Liverpool addressed their lordships. In obedience to the commands of his Majesty, he rose to lay certain papers, relative to the negotiations which had taken place on the subject of Spain. on the table of the house. He had properly to begin with the circumstances which occurred in the negotiations of last year at the congress of Verona; but before he came to them, he wished to draw their lordships' attention to some antecedent facts which would show in what situation this country stood with respect to the question of Spain before the sovereigns assembled. Their lordships would recollect, that in 1814 the King of Spain was restored to his country. During his absence a constitution had been drawn up and adopted in There were, he must ac-1812. knowledge, many circumstances connected with that constitution to which it was impossible the attention of those who were interested in the state of Spain should not be called. It had been established at a time when the opportunity for such a change could not have been foreseen, and therefore it might have been presumed that the framers of that code, as well as the country, were not prepared for it by that general knowledge which such a labour required. It was, in fact, constructed upon principles extremely erroneous - not only 1823.

erroneous in themselves, but because they were by no means suited to the condition and the: feelings of the country. On the King of Spain's restoration, it became a matter of consideration' what the course to be pursued ought to be. His Majesty's minister who was then in Spain, Sir H. Wellesley, advised Ferdinand VII. to accept the constitution of the Cortes, subject to modifications. After some hesitation on the part of that sovereign, a different course was adopted. The King was led to think that the opinion of the people of Spain was decidedly hostile to the constitution, and in his belief of the existence of that opinion his Majesty appeared to be correct. Nay, he would go far-He would say that he would not regret that the King of Spain had taken a course different from that which our minister recommended, had his Majesty only adhered to the promises he made when he refused to accept the constitution, on the ground that it was not conformable to the wishes of the people. But at the same time that he rejected the constitution which was offered to him. he issued a declaration, in which he recognized the principles of a limited monarchy, and promised to assemble Cortes. Had this course been adopted, he was far from thinking that either Spain or Europe would have had any reason to regret his Catholic Majesty's determination. But, notwithstanding this strong and voluntary declaration, no Cortes were assembled. Not only were they not assembled, but a course of misgovernment was pursued, which made the events of 1820, however unexpected, (and unexpected he believed they were,) be viewed with-K out

out regret by any one. In 1820 the constitution was restored, and. the restoration of that constitution certainly did create alarm among our allies. He confessed he thought that the manner in which that restoration had been brought about was matter of regret; but if ever there was a case of revolution in which powers had no ground for interference, in which no pretext for hostility was afforded to any foreign state, it was that of Spain. The constitution of 1812, which was restored, had already subsisted two years in Spain; and during that period, all the powers of Europe made overtures of friendship, or concluded treaties of alliance, with the government which administered that constitution. ever-defects might appear in the constitution, to whatever objections it might be liable, none of the powers of Europe had therefore any right to regard the re-establishment of that constitution as an act of hostility. Those who brought about the revolution were entitled to say that they had only brought matters back to the state in which they were when the powers of Europe concluded treaties with Spain, and courted her alliance and assistance. It accordingly appeared to Majesty's government, that there was nothing in the events of 1820 calculated to provoke hostility in any state, and every opportunity was taken to make that opinion known. It would be recollected that he had himself, at a very early date, fully stated that opinion, in consequence of a question having been put to him on a paper published by the court of St. Petersburgh. From that period, down to the meeting of the Congress of Verona, no opportunity for the

government of this country to express its sentiments had arisen, in which any interference with Spain had not been deprecated. Any attempt of that kind had been deprecated over and over again, on the ground that all interference with the internal affairs of another state was unjust and contrary to the policy of this country, unless a special case for interference could be made out. It had also been deprecated on account of the peculiar circumstances and situation Spain. It had farther been shown that in so far as the case of Spain was a special case, it would, were even the doctrine of interference true, be a case of exception. Upon every occasion in which it was necessary to advert to this subject, these views were stated to the individual who was at the time ambassador to this court from France. The reasons for abstaining from interference on grounds of policy, as well as on account of the localities and difficulties which country presents, were urged: and it was invariably maintained that. looking at all the circumstances. even those who supported doctrine of interference must acknowledge the situation of Spain to form a case of exception. When it was determined by his Majesty's government that a noble friend of his, now no more, should proceed to the Congress of Verona, ministers were not aware that the affairs of Spain were to be made a subject of particular consideration. lt was generally understood that the state of Spain would form no prominent part of the discussions. The principles upon which the instructions for his noble friend were then drawn up with respect to this question, were in contradiction to all interference.

It however did afterwards certainly appear, that the affairs of Spain were likely to form a more prominent part in the deliberations at Verona than had originally been expected. It was learned that the subject was to be brought forward by France for the purpose of obtaining some recorded opinion of the Congress on the state of Spain in relation to the government of France. What had followed in consequence of this information, would appear from the papers on the table. noble friend (the Duke of Wellington) had had a conversation with the French Minister before he proceeded to Verona. A correspondence took place, and his right hon. friend who had recently been appointed Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, instructed his noble friend to make a strong representation on the new situation in which the question respecting Spain appeared to be placed. The despatch sent to his noble friend intimated that if there was any attempt to interfere by force or by menuce in the affairs of Spain, he should peremptorily declare that "so convinced are his Majesty's government of the uselessness and danger of any such interference—so objectionable does it appear to them in principle, as well as utterly impracticable in execution, that to such interference, come what may, his Majesty will not be a party." This despatch was sent on the 27th of September. by his hon, friend at the head of the foreign department. By the next despatch received from his noble friend it was learned that the French government intended to submit certain questions to the Congress of Verona, with the view of obtaining the determination of the allied powers upon them. These

questions were as follows:--" 1. In case France should find herself under the necessity of recalling her minister from Madrid, and of breaking offall diplomatic relations with Spain, will the high courts be disposed to adopt like measures and to recall their respective missions? 2. Should war break out between France and Spain, under what form, and by what acts, would the high powers afford to France that moral support which would give to her measures the weight and authority of the alliance, and inspire a salutary dread into the revolutionists of all countries? 3. What, in short, is the intention of the high powers, as to the extent and the form of the effectual assistance which they would be disposed to give to France, in case active interference should, on her demand, become necessary?" These questions, especially the first. seemed to be rather prospective. They certainly did not contemplate the invasion of the Spanish territory at that time. It seemed to be anticipated that Spain was to become the aggressor on France, and then, that in consequence of that aggression, the diplomatic relations were to be interrupted. The answer given by his noble friend was conformable to the instructions already referred to. The ministers of the three other powers replied in substance, that, if France should be obliged to break off her diplomatic relations with Spain, their governments would respectively discontinue theirs. The noble Duke. in his reply, simply stated, that since the month of April 1820, his Majesty's government had availed themselves of every opportunity of recommending to his Majesty's allies to abstain from all interference in the internal affairs of Spain, &c.

K 2

[Here the noble earl stated the principal passages of the inclosure in the despatch No. 4, class A, of the papers.] This was the first communication which took place, in answer to the three propositions. appeared from a review of the transactions which were at that time impending, that subsequently there were two steps, on which the sovereigns assembled at Verona had The first and the only decided. one which at this moment it was necessary for him to notice,-for hereafter he should have to state the second,-the first subsequent step was, to prepare certain despatches for transmission to the government of Spain, through the ministers of these sovereigns, then resident in Madrid, the substance of which was to intimate the strong objections entertained to the course of policy and of government pursued by the Spanish authorities. and also conveying an intention of withdrawing their ministers from the court of Madrid. His noble friend (the Duke of Wellington) most strongly protested against this proceeding—he protested formally, solemnly, and repeatedly, against any interference by the other powers in the internal concerns of Spain, and particularly any interference by force of arms, in the way of hostile aggression upon the Spanish territory; the intention of resorting in any shape to force, was protested against by the British government, and the advice to refrain from such measures, which must inevitably inflame and exasperate, was given in the most earnest manner, although he was bound to admit it was not followed by the French government, and it was ultimately determined to transmit

the despatches already prepared for the ministers of the allied sovereigns at Madrid. Upon their transmission, his noble friend again entered his solemn protest against the course of proceeding which was then adopted, and alluded in these words to the despatches determined to be sent to Madrid:—

"These sentiments and opinions have certainly been entertained by the three cabinets of Austria, Prussia, and Russia, for a considerable period of time; and the British government duly appreciates the forbearance and deference for the opinions of other cabinets, which have dictated the delay to make these communications, to the present moment. But having been delayed till now, I would request those ministers to consider whether this is the moment at which such remonstrances should be madewhether they are calculated to allay the irritation against France, and to prevent a possible rupture; and whether they might not with advantage be delayed to a later period.

"They are certainly calculated to irritate the government of Spain; to afford ground for a belief that advantage has been taken of the irritation existing between that government and France, to call down upon Spain the power of the alliance; and thus to embarrass still more the difficult position of the French government.

"The result of these communications will probably be, that the diplomatic relations between the three allied courts and Spain will be discontinued, whatever may be the state of the questions between. France and Spain: this occurrence cannot assist the cause of France; as those questions will stand upon

their

their own ground, and the government of France must decide them upon their own merits.

" But these communications are not only calculated to embarrase the French government, but likewise that of the King, my master. His Majesty feels sincerely for the King and the peoble of Spain; he is anxious to see a termination of the evils and misfortunes by which that country is afflicted, and that it should be prosperous and happy. His Majesty likewise earnestly desires that the usual relations of amity and good neighbourhood may be re-established between France and Spain; and his Majesty's government would have been anxious to co-operate with those of his allies in allaying the existing irritation, and in preventing a possible rupture.

" But his Majesty's government are of opinion, that to animadvert upon the internal transactions of an independent state, unless such transactions affect the essential interests of his Majesty's subjects, is inconsistent with those principles on which his Majesty has invariably acted on all questions relating to the internal concerns of other countries; that such animadversions, if made, must involve his Majesty in serious responsibility, if they should produce any effect; and must irritate, if they should not; and if addressed, as proposed, to the Spanish gevernment, are likely to be injurious to the best interests of Spain, and to produce the worst consequences upon the probable discussions between that country and France.

"The King's government must, therefore, decline to advise his Majesty to hold a common language with his allies upon this occasion; and it is so necessary for his Maijesty not to be supposed to participate in a measure of this description, and calculated to produce such consequences, that his government must equally refrain from advising his Majesty to direct that any communication should be made to the Spanish government on the subject of its relations with France.

"His Majesty, therefore, must limit his exertions and good offices to the endeavours of his minister at Madrid to allay the ferment which these communications must occasion, and to do all the good in his power."

Such were the terms of the solemn protest of his noble friend. The course against which it was directed was pursued, and accompanied by a declaration of the view taken by France of the conduct of Spain: and certain proceedings were adopted in furtherance of the intended measures, to which Great Britain was not, and could not be, in any respect a party. The substance of these proceedings on the part of France, in conjunction with the allied powers, was an expression of the necessity of protecting France against a direct attack from Spain, There were three contingencies, the occurrence of any one of which was to call into action the hostility of the allied powers, who, in conjunction with France, had looked at the affairs of Spain. The first contingency was, in the event of Spain endeavouring to propagate the political opinions of her existing government within the territory of her neighbourFrance, or to embark in or adopt any measures therein which were calculated to disturb the French government. The second contingency was, any dethronement of the King of Spain, or act of vio-

lence

lence towards his person or family. The third was any attempt on the part of the Spanish government to change or alter the existing dynasty. To the first of these existing contingencies he thought there could be no objection, when it was considered what were the relations of the governments in alliance, and the common object they must have in view: but with reference to the other contingencies, it was distinctly declared on the part of Great Britain that to every thing in the shape of menace and armed threat they were most decidedly hostilethey were averse to any attack upon Spain such as had since occurred: of the merits of the external question between France and Spain this country was not then formally apprised, and, as the circumstances were not specifically communicated, all they could do was to protest in general terms against the adoption of a hostile policy in the first instance. It was most material for him to state, that up to the period to which he was now referring, however objectionable, in their opinion, had been the policy pursued on the Continent—however widely this country might differ from the course pursued by the allied governments respecting Spain-still there had not been at that time any step taken on the part of France which necessarily indicated the invasion of Spain by any of the allied powers. The first condition of interference on the part of the allies was, as well, indeed, as the two others, purely contingent, and did not apply to any case or to any circumstance which then existed, or was occurring, as far as their information went, the first was a purely defensive contingency, and no act on the part of Spain had altered her situ-

ation with the other sovereigns or with France during these discussions. The instructions then transmitted to the other ministers at Madrid were in every sense of the word unauthorized; they formed a false step, which it was unnecessary to take, from the previous declarations which had been made. The result, however, was, that the ministers of the allied powers then discussing the affairs of Spain, quitted Madrid after the delivery of their respective despatches. however, the removal of an ambassador was not an act of hostility to the power from which such embassy was withdrawn: he need not inform their lordships that the breaking up of diplomatic relations between states, was neither a cause of war. nor a circumstance which could properly be considered an occasion of war upon legitimate grounds; diplomatic relations had been for years suspended between states, and yet no war had resulted from such a suspension of friendly intercourse. Countries remote from each other were not under the same necessity as neighbouring states, of maintaining mutual resident embassiesunquestionably the maintenance of them was at all times useful; though not the cause of war, he was ready to admit that the absence of ministers had often a tendency to the introduction of a war-a war which might have been possibly averted, were the regular intercourse maintained. He repeated that the removal of a resident minister was no just cause of war, and would go farther and state, that he could conceive a variety of cases in which it might be necessary for a minister to advise his sovereign to recall his ambassador, where he would not follow up that advice by recommending

mending any declaration of war. He could not again in this part of his statement, in explanation of the policy pursued by his Majesty's government, refrain from declaring that up to the time to which he alluded, there was not in any of the recorded acts of the Congress of Verona any avowed intention on the part of France to invade the Spanish territory; not only was there no such recorded intention, but there was what might be construed into a negative conclusion upon that point, for the three general contingent grounds of direct interference with Spain, which were to lead to a general re-assembling of the allied powers to consider of what ulterior proceedings should be adopted, had not occurred when the Congress of Verona broke up. He was most ready to say, that no step had hitherto been taken-nothing had occurred which indicated any intention on the part What of France to invade Spain. might be the particular political views, or respective influence of individuals, or spirit of dictation, to which they were prepared to resort, was a different question; but still there was nothing calculated to lead the British government into a belief that France meditated a direct attack upon the existing government of Spain. After the dissolution of the Congress of Verona, the pacific policy of Great Britain was still decidedly manifested upon every occasion: their uniform desire was to maintain the amicable relations of Europe, and to oppose every proper obstruction to the contingent perils of war. The necessary steps were taken without delay, after the congress, to interpose the mediation of this country between France and Spain.

On the return of his noble friend from the Continent, they received farther information of the views and intentions of the government of France. It was then known that it was determined to forward the despatches to the ministers of the allied powers at Madrid, and the government lost no time in taking such measures to tender their interposition to reconcile the conflicting parties, as they thought would not only prove satisfactory to the people of England, but also acceptable to the respective governments of Europe. They were still in hopes that France had not finally determined upon a war policy, and that, through the interposition of Great Britain, she might still be induced to adhere to a pacific course. He was at the same time bound to say that even the despatch of the 25th of December, to Madrid, did not, except in general terms, avow an intention of effecting an alteration in the policy of the government of Spain, by an invasion of that country: it was so received and understood by those most affected, namely, the authorities at Madrid, as would be seen upon a perusal of the papers which it was his duty to submit to their lordships; for when the despatches from France had arrived at Madrid, they were found rather to give relief than to excite alarm in the opinion of the Spanish government: the authorities at Madrid felt, on receiving the despatch to which he alluded, that no immediate hostility, at least, was intended against them, although the allied sovereigns had transmitted their opinions of the state of Spain. and withdrawn their resident ministers. It would be his duty now to state the course of proceedings which

which had been adopted by England in this stage of the proceedings upon the Continent, and the principles which had governed their proceedings. He had no difficulty in stating that both then. as indeed throughout, it was incumbent upon Great Britain to use every effort, and exercise all her influence to prevent a war between France and Spain, and to mediate in every honourable and effective manner to avert such a calamity: they were, he admitted, bound by every motive to resort to every measure which they could adopt consistently with honour, to maintain free from disturbance the amicable relations of the powers of Europe. He would say that this was their natural and just policy, not only with respect to the internal condition of Spain, but also of France, and of the other governments of Europe; for if hostilities commenced with one of the great powers, and more particularly commenced on the principles which were now acting upon, no man could say to what extremities they might be driven. It was their duty, therefore, towards France, towards Spain, towards Europe, and still more towards themselves. to adopt every measure which was consistent with the safety, the honour, and the character of the country, to prevent the introduction of a war into Spain. were, besides, at that moment, placed under circumstances with Spain, which undoubtedly gave them a special motive for amicable interposition; for at that very period, and immediately antecedent to the first step of aggression undertaken by France, the government of Great Britain had been called upon by Spain to use her

amicable interposition to avert a war with France. The tender of mediation, although honourable and right in itself, did not therefore originate with this country, but arose out of the express desire of the government of Spain herself: not that Spain at the time had received any direct menace of war. but upon the mere assumption, that in the event of such a war arising, England might determine upon an absolute neutrality. He mentioned this expression of neutrality, for the purpose of showing that it was assumed and contemplated at the time by Spain. This intermediation had been tendered to France, and certainly declined, on the ground that the existing differences with Spain were not of that specific nature which could be submitted to a mediator; and also in the hope that the intervention of Great Britain with Spain might be usefully exercised in another manner. The immediate object which Spain had at that time in view, had reference to the French army of observation, and not to more direct hostilities: the great object of Spain then was, to have the French army of observation withdrawn. However, while Frauce had a perfect right to maintain that force, she could not be called upon to withdraw it, unless some pretext were afforded by Spain for such a change of position. felt no difficulty in here avowing, that when England tendered her mediation, nothing upon earth would have induced her to ask Spain to concede one tittle of her constitution, or system of government, which the Spanish people thought material for their safety or honour; but the British government knew, and the whole world

world knew-nay, there was not even a reasonable man in Spain who was not ready to admit, that some modifications of the Spanish constitution wer indispensably necessary to allay that state of civil war and local agitation which convulsed that country. The advice and mediation of Great Britain having been asked by Spain, this government thought it right to inquire what means of defence Spain possessed to resist an immediate attack, should such be made against her, and though, looking at her means of ultimate resistance, as great as those of any other country in Europe, it was clear that from a variety of causes her immediate power of resistance was inadequate to oppose the entrance into her territory of an invading army like that which could be brought against them; and although, as in the last war, she might ultimately repel the most wide-spreading aggression from without, yet still she could not acquire that advantage without undergoing the most painful vicissitudes, and passing through the bitterest scenes of misery; her fairest and best provinces must be overrun by an invading army, and pillaged; for that must be the effect, whatever was said in the way of recommendation in proclamations. In this they were clearly considering the interests of Spain: not perbaps as their first consideration. for their own interests must always predominate. What they had recommended to Spain was not conveyed in the shape of demand, but of suggestion; suggestion, too, a rejection of which was not to be received or attended with penalty or displeasure, but of a nature such as a friend could recommend upon the clearest and most palnable view of the interest of the party to whom it was recommended. was satisfactory for them to have had the advantage, upon such an occasion, of a noble personage, whose authority was of great weight in this country, of great respect in Europe, and particularly of high influence in Spain. government had availed themselves of the instrumentality of his noble friend near him (the Duke of Wellington) in their communications with the authorities in Spain. had brought under the view of the Spanish government their actual situation and condition, and his opinions upon both. He had done so antecedent to the invasion of Spain, or even to any distinct menace or avowal of the intention to enter that country; for the papers would show that so late as the middle of January the Spanish government was strongly impressed with a belief that no immediate invasion of their country was contemplated by France. He himself had never believed that such a measure was contemplated until about the time when the King of France delivered his speech. The promulgation of the King of France's speech made a great alteration in the state of things. Still all hopes of accommodation were not at an end, and it would appear that France had subsequently declared that her desire for peace was as ardent as ever, and had offered to explain away the passage in the King's speech which was calculated to give offence to every representative or popular form of government -he meant the passage which declared that all authority necessarily emanated from the Crown. A disposition had been

been evinced on the part of the French government to qualify that paragraph, and express its meaning in a sense very different from the natural interpretation which the words used were calculated to convey. They still clung to the hope that means of averting that which they all deplored were still within their reach. He would now come to the most material part of the subject - namely, what had been the policy of this country, and what ought to be the policy of this country, together with the reasons on which that policy was founded. He had already stated on a former occasion, that our policy was neutrality: and not only had we viewed it to be our policy, but it had been distinctly so understood by the Spanish government, and our interference was accepted by them under that impression; so that there had been no misconception on that point. In stating the reason why that policy had been adopted, he had no hesitation in saying that it was the duty of the country, and its first consideration, to maintain its honour; that if the bonour or any essential interest of this country required that we should be engaged in war, we had the means of carrying on such war. But when he said this, let it not be supposed that he doubted what the true interests of the country were. recovering from the sufferings which our unparalleled exertions had occasioned, was this the time, when our commerce and manufactures were arrived at a state of prosperity which they had never enjoyed at any former periodwhen our agriculture was reviving from the difficulties which it had experienced—was this a moment when any rational person would

question that peace was desirable. for this country, and that we should not give to other countries those advantages which we at present enjoyed, but part of which, in the event of war, we must necessarily forego? In addition to these considerations, which ought to have great weight, there was another resulting from the nature of the country in which, if we embarked in war, the contest must be carried on. Let it not be supposed that it would be sufficient to send a supply of arms and ammunition, or a small subsidy; our device must be

---- Toto certatum est corpore regui.

It was not a small army which must be sent, but the same exertions must again be made as when that country was last the theatre of war. A war carried on in Spain was four times as expensive as in any other country of Europe. There was a third reason for the policy pursued by his Majesty's In the last war government. Spain was not the end, but the means—the end was the safety of Europe: it was true, that on the territory of Spain the most convenient ground was found, and it was there the battle of Europe was fought and her safety assured. But what was the state of Spain? She was then a united country, and from one end of it to the other there was not a difference of sentiment; there might be individual traitors, but they were exceptions to the general sentiment. Was that the case now? Spain is now a divided country: not as some countries were divided, when all the active spirits were on one side and the quiescent only on the other; there were here activity and enthusiasm on the one side as well

as the other: there was now raging a civil war in Spain—a war of the priests and peasants against the landholders and shopkeepers. would admit that all the intelligence was on one side, but there was the fanaticism of liberty on one side, and the fanaticism of religion on the other. Under the circumstances which he had stated. were we to engage not alone to drive the French out of Spain, but to maintain one-half the country against the other? It was said that the war was by no means popular in France, either with the manufacturing or commercial interests; it was, perhaps, too much to suppose that any war would be unpopular with the army, but this was one in which they must feel that little glory was to be obtained; but could any man suppose that if this country were to take part in the war, it would not become popular in France? There was no doubt that it would, and the Spanish interests would recede from view, and the British interests, which would be involved, would become the most prominent. But it was said the menace of going to war might have been thrown out: but supposing it had, and been ineffectual, the question would still recur, of whether it was proper and expedient to go to war, for no man could recommend that a menace should be thrown out which we should not be prepared to fulfil. Farther, it had been said that we might ultimately be compelled to go to war—that France might succeed in her projects, conquer Spain, and attack Without examining Portugal. probabilities, it might be sufficient to say, that the best way of securing all the objects we

had in view might be by not going to war. He had no difficulty in saying, that if a great mischief might be prevented by incurring a present smaller one, it might be expedient to embrace the smaller, in order to prevent the greater danger. No doubt, events might arise which might involve this country in war; for instance, by Portugal becoming involved in it; but we had positive assurances that if she remained neutral, she would not be attacked. But would any one embark in a contest because events might happen, which, according to all usual calculation of contingencies, would not happen? policy be neutrality, he hoped it would be an actual, an honest neutrality. The house would have the opportunity of seeing the whole course of the proceedings, and would then form its own judgment, when he trusted it would appear that this country had done its duty to France and to Spain, and, above all, that his Majesty's government had done its duty to this kingdom and its subjects.

Earl Grey objected to the manner in which their lordships were compelled to receive the statement from the Earl of Liverpool only, without time having been allowed them for examining the documents upon which that statement was founded; and thought the indecision shown upon the part of ministers one great cause of the failure of the negotiation. In this he was supported by

Lord King .- Adjourned.

House of Commons, April 14.—
Petitions were presented for a reduction in the number of Irish bishops—against the insolvent debtors' act—upon the subject of agricultural distress—against any concessions being made to the Re-

man

man Catholics—against tithes—against the leather tax.

The general turnpike act was read a second time, and ordered to be committed. The swearing act amendment bill passed through a committee:

On the motion of *Dr. Luskington*, the forgery bill was ordered to be read a second time this day six months.

The apprenticeships bill was read a second time.

In answer to a question from Mr. Grenfell,

The Chancellor of the Exchequer signified, that it was his intention to propose the bringing up of the report of the committee on the naval and military pensions bill that evening, unless, which he did not anticipate, any protracted discussion should arise upon the statement which his right hon, friend the Secretary for Foreign Affairs intended to make.

The Scotch sheriffs' courts bill was read a second time.

The Union duties bill passed through a committee, and was ordered to be read a third time on Friday.

Mr. Canning appearing at the bar, he was called upon by the Speaker; he stated that he held in his hand papers which he was commanded by his Majesty to present to the house.

It was ordered that they should be brought up.

Mr. Caming brought up the papers and moved that their titles be read: he then went over the same ground, but at rather greater length, which the Earl of Liverpool had gone over in the upper house.

Afterwards Mr. Brougham said, he rose on this occasion not so much for the purpose of entering into the discussion of the many momentous topics which the right hon. gent.

had introduced in the course of his speech, as to vindicate himself and the gentlemen near him in the eyes of the country for not now proceeding with the discussion, animated as they were by many of the sentiments which had fallen from the right hon, gentleman-sentiments which reflected the highest honour on his character. There were, no doubt, very many persons who did not thoroughly understand why so great an abstinence had been exhibited, and for so long a period, on that (the opposition) side of the house. This circumstance he would explain. He was one of those who, when he heard in a distant part of the country, where he was professionally engaged, the course of proceeding which the right hon. gent, intended to follow, could not see the expediency of adopting that The right hon. gent. did course. not produce the papers in the first instance, that gentlemen might read them: he reversed the practice by defending his conduct first, and afterwards producing the papers on which that defence was founded. Now he must say, that the unfavourable impression which that mode of proceeding had originally communicated to his mind, was not altogether removed by the right honourable gentleman's statement: for it did so happen, that, having attended to his speech with the greatest possible care, he found himself left in the dark, up to the present moment, as to the precise and specific line of conduct which his Majesty's government had pursued. The right honourable gentleman said, that strict neutrality was what the government had intended; he said that they would give no assistance to Spain, or to the invaders of Spain; but to what extent they had laboured to avert it, what representations

sentations they had made at Verona or at Paris upon these points, he was left whelly in the dark. Nay, there were some parts of the right hon. gentleman's narrative, which, from the curious omissions observable, led him to a conclusion directly the reverse of that which other parts of the statement would induce him to form. The right hon, gentleman having passed over, with a lightness at which he (Mr. Brougham)greatly marvelled, whatsoever had been done at Verona. having given no account of what had been said by the Duke of Welhington-having stated nothing relative to proceedings which afterwards took place at Paris-stated, to his great astonishment, in a subsequent part of his speech, that the Duke of Wellington had exerted bimself to secure the tranquillity of Spain. But how? That did not Here there was a great appear. chasm—an immense hiatus valde deflendus!-in the narrative-the most important part was omitted. Hamlet in the play, the most striking and the most necessary object, was But having made these left out. omissions, the right hon, gent, went on to say, that the Duke of Wellington had first restored the freedom of Spain by his military prowess, and had next defended her liberty and independence by his conduct at Verona. Now, if he took this as a real statement of what had occurred at Verona, he should be led to indulge in the pleasing expectation, that he should find, in the papers on the table, no vague generalities, no idle wishes, but representations drawn up in the firm language of remonstrance. He would not say menace, because that point appeared to have been blown on towards the latter part of the

right hon. gentleman's speech. He. however, did not know that there were any persons, either in that house or out of it, who could be so extremely absurd as to wish ministers to use menaces which they could not follow up—he would say that they ought to have used the strong and firm language of remonstrance, not of menace. It was of no use to say "Don't think we are so mad as the Bourbon government-don't think we are so wicked as that handful of imbeciles who have forgotten nothing and learned nothing, who have not profited by those precious lessons of adversity which were never thrown away on any except themselves—don't suppose that we will assist in bringing back those pernicious principles which are the shame of France, which, if restored, must be the curse of the Spanish people, and reduce to misery all the rest of Europe." What benefit could result from their declaring at Veronathat "we are not so base, so wicked, so drivelling, or so profligate, as those by whom the invasion of Spain has been commanded"? What gratitude did he owe to ministers if they had done no more than this? What was the use of such statements, if nothing effectual were done to check that system of policy, which he thought had died with the late Marquis of Londonderrythat system which was supported by their shallow rhetorician, by their flimsy orator, Chateaubriand, who had been transformed from a writer of bad books, to a writer of worse speeches? What use was it to tell the people, and the parliament, "We do not mean to do that," which ministers knew, for their lives, they could not, they dared not de? Where was the mighty

mighty fortitude, where was the exalted courage in their saying "We will not, to support your false principles, plunge this country into a war with all Europe"? No minister, not even Mr. Pitt, in all the plenitude of his power, would dare to make such an experiment. Where, then, was the merit of a government such as the present, no two members of which seemed to agree upon any important point? Where was their merit in declaring. that they would not do an act which it was not in their power to effect? He observed, when the minister rose and uttered sentiments which. as an Euglishman, a statesman, and an orator, did him the highest · honour - sentiments which would surprise and delight the country, and which would crown him with the ardent applause of that country; -he observed, while those expressions were heard with delight by all who sat in that (the opposition) part of the house—while the loudest expressions of gratification were beard—while even the benches below him resounded with acclamations—that a death-like silence was preserved by the gentlemen opposite—that the faculties of those who administered the government, and their various adherents and supporters, appeared to sink into a " dread repose," astounded, he supposed, at the liberality of the principles which they had so unexpectedly heard. "God grant," said Mr. Brougham, "that the negotiation, when we come to read the papers, be not found to have been carried on rather in the spirit of those silent gentlemen than in the spirit which fills the breast of the right honourable secretary - the expression of which was re-echoed from almost every part of that

bouse, and would be joyfully responded from every part of the empire." Finding many contradictions in the statement which they bad just now heard—finding also a great many blanks in it - and knowing that the contradictions could only be reconciled, and the blanks filled up, by a careful perusal of the papers-what, under such circumstances, could be more necessary than to defer the detailed discussion of the question? He was ignorant of even the dates of the different papers; and therefore he could not tell how long the right honourable secretary had been the dupe of the French government. That he had been duped was quite clear. That was his case. right honourable gentleman denied being an accomplice, and he disproved the accusation by showing that he was the dupe. Until be knew how long he had been boodwinked by those persons, he could not decide in what degree the French government altogether was or was not the most finished specimen of perfidy that could be conceived. He believed from all he bad seen, that the conduct of the French government had been most perfidious. However gentlemen opposite might stare, he repeated, their conduct had been most perfidious. The right honourable gentleman himself had admitted the fact—. he had stated it in a manner almost less measured than that which he (Mr. Brougham) had adopted. speaking of the objects of his vituperation, the right honourable gentleman had, in effect, declared that more cunning, more imposing, more wheedling men — men of worse faith, more abandoned in their notions of honour-men whose words were less to be relied on-existed

not in any cabinet in the world, than those men who now composed the French government. were the figures which constantly occurred to them in the picture which the right honourable gentleman had that night sketched. By reading one of the papers it would be found, that up to the very eve of the day when the French King declared war in his speech to the chambers, the government of this country was abused with false but sanguine hopes of pacification. He wondered how it could possibly enter into the mind of so acute a person as the right honourable gentleman, who had recently studied in the French school of policy, to write that despatch which he had read this night. The concluding passage was one of the most wonderful things in this extraordinary chapter of marvels. That he could have written it when M. Chateaubriand was not at his elbow to wheedle him, that he could have written it in the fulness of his senses, appeared almost incredible. That a paper which was to go to the French government, a paper which was to be laid before that house. accompanied as it was by proofs of the most unexampled perfidy, should contain such a flattering expression of sentiments, was really astonishing. It was there stated that no one could doubt the purity of the motives which influenced the French government. It appeared, according to this, that the little article of the French making war on the Spaniards was nothing; that no man could be so jealous, so foolish, as to suppose that France had any object of uggrandizement in view, when she strove to over-run Spain. As to

the line of conduct they were about to be called on to sanction, either by their forbearance, or by adopting some proposition from the other side of the house, until he had an opportunity, not hypothetically, as at present, of reading and examining the papers themselves, he would abstain from giving any opinion whatever .---When the papers now produced should be fully before the house, their business would be to decide whether the conduct of government was such as either to give rise to bitter disappointment to hopes strongly excited, or sore humiliation at the degradation of our national honour.

The papers were ordered to be laid on the table.

On the question that the papers be printed,

Mr. Canning said, it was not his intention at that moment to avail himself of any opportunity of replying to the hon. and learned gentleman's speech, or to enter into a vindication of the conduct of kis Majesty's government. He was willing to rest upon the documents. to let them be tried by all the tests of the law of nations by which such documents could be judged; and he felt satisfied that they would be found consistent with the independence of nations, the faith of treaties, and the bonour of this country.—They were then ordered to be printed.

On the question that the report of the naval and military pensions bill be brought up, Mr. Grenfell moved, as an amendment, that the report be received that day six months.

Mr. Herries defended the bill, and contended, that the government ment had made the best and most economical bargain the circumstances admitted of.

Sir Joseph Yorke and Mr. Hume

severally opposed the bill.

The house then divided, and the numbers were as follow:—For the amendment, 87—Against it, 133—Majority, 46.

The house then went into a committee of supply, when several items were moved and carried.

The weights and measures bill was recommitted; and, upon the motion of Sir G. Clerk, several verbal amendments were agreed to.—The house then adjourned.

House of Lords, April 15.—A person from the office of the chief secretary for Ireland presented returns under the insurrection act. A person from the Treasury presented returns relative to the national debt, and the fourth report of the commissioners of inquiry.

Petitions were presented against the insolvent act, and upon the subject of agricultural distress.

The grants of aids and innkeepers' allowance bills were committed without amendment.

Earl Grey said that he had spent all the time since last night, when the papers were laid on the table by the noble earl, (Liverpool) in the careful perusal and consideration of them, and he was sorry to say that the result had in no degree weakened the first impression on his mind; but, on the contrary, had confirmed him in the opinion, that both in the negotiations at Verona, and those which had since taken place, the bonour and interests of this country had been sacrificed in a manner of which there was no precedent.-Adjourned.

House of Commons, April 15 .--

Petitions were presented against the Roman Catholic claims—two complaining of the proceedings of his Majesty's attorney-general for Ireland—praying the house to investigate the duties on East and West India sugars—against the ship apprentice bill—and the turn-pike act.

The Irish joint tenantcy bill was committed, the report received, and ordered to be taken into farther consideration on Friday week.

The division of counties' bill went through a committee, and the report was ordered to be received to-morrow.

On the motion of Mr. H. G. Bennet, a return was ordered of the receipt and expenditure of the county-rates, for the last three years, distinguishing each; also distinguishing the number of persons charged with felony in each county, in the same time; the number tried and acquitted; the number convicted, and the cost of prosecution to the county.

Dr. Luskington brought in a bill to amend and consolidate the laws regarding the slave-trade.—Read a

first time.

Mr.Brownlow brought forward his motion relating to the late law proceedings in Ireland, in which the attorney-general was stated to have proceeded *ex officio* upon a bill which the grand jury had ignored: the honourable gentleman stated the case at length, and concluded by moving in the way of resolution -" That it appears to this house that the conduct of his Majesty's attorney-general for Ireland, with respect to the persons charged with a riot in the Dublin theatre, on the 14th of December last, particularly in bringing them to trial upon informations filed ex officio after bills

of indictment against them for the same offence had been thrown out by a grand jury, was unwise;—that it was contrary to the practice, and not congenial to the spirit of the British constitution; and that it ought not to be drawn into a precedent hereafter."

Mr. Plunket replied: he stated great fault upon the part of the jury in rejecting evidence, and asserted that he had only exercised the power entrusted to him.

He was followed by Mr. W. Courtenay, Mr. D. Browne, Colonel Barry, Lord Milton, Mr. Goulburn,

and others.

Mr. Brougham pledged himself to move an inquiry into the conduct of the sheriff and grand jury, in which he was supported by Mr. Canning.

Mr. Brownlow said, with the leave of the house he would withdraw his motion, but would support that of the hon. and learned gent. (Mr. Brougham).

Sir F. Burdett gave notice of a motion on the same subject.—Ad-

iourned.

House of Lords, April 16.— Lord Sultons presented a petition from the planters of the island of Nevis, complaining of distress.

The innkeepers' allowance and grants of aids bills were read the third time, and passed.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, April 16.—
Twenty-two petitions (most from Ireland) were presented against the Catholic claims—one from Kilkenny in favour of the same—one against the warehousing bill—from a free-thinking society in Edinburgh complaining of persecution—from the clergy of the diocese of Elphin against a commutation of tithes—upon the subject of agricultural distress—against the turnpike act.

1823.

Lord G. Beresford appeared at the bar, and informed the house that his Majesty had received the address sent up on the 27th of March, praying that he might be graciously pleased to give directions for the erection of monuments to the late Earl St. Vincent and Lord Duncan, and that he had given directions accordingly. His Majesty had also received the addresses of the house of the 10th, 14th, and 15th instant, and had given directions accordingly.

Lord Althorpe brought forward his motion for the repeal of the foreign enlistment bill, which after a long and spirited debate was nega-

tived by 216 against 110.

Orders of day disposed of.—Ad-

journed.

House of Lords, April 17.— Five petitions were presented against the Catholic claims, and one in their favour—one against the barilla duty.

Lord King said, he understood that a noble friend of his (Earl Grey) had given notice of his intention to put some questions to the noble earl opposite on the subject of the late negotiations between France and Spain, but the motion with which he (Lord King) intended to conclude would not in the least interfere, he apprehended, with what his noble friend intended to say. The papers which the noble earl (Liverpool) had laid on the table had certainly given great satisfaction to every one; the French ministers must be well satisfied with them, his Majesty's ministers also were satisfied with them, and the satisfaction of the public must be extreme, for every body laughed at them. What he now wished to know was the expense at which all this satisfaction

had been obtained. He had read the whole of the papers, and he thought a noble earl near him was fully justified in saying that his Majesty's ministers had been completely In the very first despatch duped. of the noble duke from Paris he expressed himself as if surprised at the position of Spanish affairs; but then there was the "Cordon Sanitaire:" that was the first instance The army of observaof dupery. tion was the second; but then, at Verona, the object was to preserve the peace between France and Spain, and that was certainly most satisfactory. Monsieur Villele was so satisfied with our ministers, that he wished for their advice, and the flattery seemed to have pleased them so much, that even Mr. Canning appeared to have been taken in by it; for he had written to Sir Charles Stuart that the repeated assurances of France forbade the suspicion that she wished to take military possession of Spain, and him from all apprehensions for Portugal. Could human credulity and dupery go farther than this? It would be most amusing to be present at one of the French minister's cabinet-dinners: there he should perhaps hear Monsieur de Montmorency plume himself on having satisfied our ministers respecting the Cordon Sanitaire and the army of observation. sieur Villele would say, "That is nothing to what I have done;" and then Monsieur Chateaubriand. perhaps, would say, "But I have gone beyond you all; for I have made them abandon all suspicion of our taking military possession of Spain." Every man must expect to be duped once in his life; and if it were done by a person who had before borne an ordinary

good character, there was not much in it; but at this time of day, to be duped by the House of Bourbon was most extraordinary. The noble lord concluded by moving for an account of the extraordinary expenses of foreign missions between the 1st of September and 31st of December 1822.

Lord Holland and Earl Grey followed; the noble earl put some questions to the Earl of Liverpool upon the transactions at Verona.

The Earl of Liverpool replied, that he had expected to be called to answer a few questions, but that the noble Earl (Grey) had adverted to so many points, and taken so wide a range, that to reply fully would lead him into a discussion of a most important nature; his lord-ship observed that nothing could be more unfair than the noble earl's account of the transactions at Verona.

Lord Holland observed, that the noble earl who complained of being placed in such a dreadful state of embarrassment, because his noble friend (Earl Grey) had not given him notice of the nature of the questions which he intended to propose, and the speech by which he intended to introduce them, did nevertheless, about four or five nights ago, come down and give their lordships a long speech, being a comment and argument on papers which were not then on the table, and to which noble lords on his (Lord Holland's) side of the house had not had access. The noble earl now said, it was extremely hard to take him by surprise, and to ask him to explain papers which were lying in his own office. This was dealing out the same measure of justice to others which the noble earl claimed for himself. (Lord

(Lord Holland) was not disposed to be so irregular, at a time when there was no question before the house, to enter upon a consideration of those great topics which would hereafter form the subject of discussion. He could not, however, help declaring, that the noble earl had given a most unsatisfactory answer to all the questions which had been proposed by his The first question noble friend. which had been put to the noble earl was, how it happened that the reciprocity of communication, to make use of an Irishism, was all on one side? How it had happened that we had communicated to France every thing which we had done with regard to Spain, whilst France communicated nothing to us upon the same subject? Now, what answer did the noble earl give upon this point? He said that we did not communicate our transactions with Spain to France alone, but that we also let the Emperors of Russia and Austria and the King of Prussia into the secret. He must say, that such a proceeding was the wildest and most impracticable course of policy ever pursued by men in power. Upon the second point of inquiry-namely, why the British government had not protested more strongly against the principle of interference in the internal concerns of Spain, reference had been made to a despatch of the noble duke opposite (Wellington). He could assure that noble dake, without intending an idle compliment to him, that whenever he found his name attached to any document of which he could not approve, he felt pain and indignation; but he felt it his duty to declare that papers more unbecoming a British minister than those which

had proceeded from the pen of the noble duke, he had never had the misfortune to peruse. Let their lordships look at the language of the noble duke. Speaking of the proposed interference with Spain, in his answer to the three questions proposed by the French vernment, he said, "Such an interference always appeared to the British government an unnecessary assumption of responsibility, which, considering all the circumstances. must expose the King of Spain to danger, and the power or powers which should interfere, to obloquy, certain risks, and possible disasters -to enormous expenses, and final disappointment in producing any result." This was the way in which the noble duke spoke of the greatest crime which men in possession of power could commit. The explanation which the noble earl had given of the early proceedings at Verona was most extraordinary. Could the noble duke mean seriously to declare, that after the declaration which Russia had issued in order to drive on an aggression against Spain, he believed that the three questions which had been so frequently alluded to, had been put to him in contemplation of an aggression on the part of Spain against France? If, after what had passed respecting Naples, and after the perusal of the proclamations of Russia, which were as disgusting for their ignorance and conceit as for the ambitious designs which they revealed, the noble duke would say, that he, poor old soul, in the simplicity and innocence of his heart, thought that those questions were proposed in contemplation of an aggression on the part of Spain against France, he (Lord Holland) was bound to believe him: L 2

him; but he would pray that the affairs of this country might never again be conducted by men who, like the noble duke and his colleagues, however honest they might be in themselves, were so little aware of the dishonesty of others. The noble lord concluded by moving for the production of the following papers:-"1. Copies of the answers returned by the plenipotentiaries of Austria, Russia, and Prussia, to the three questions proposed by the French government at Verona, on the 20th of October, 1822;—2. Copies of all the written declarations made by the Engthe allied lish government to powers, since the year 1820, to induce them to abstain from interference in the internal affairs of Spain;—3. Copies of all the communications between the Spanish and English governments, in which the former accuses the French government of fomenting discord in Spain; -4. A copy of all the despatches of M. de Chateaubriand to the French minister at Madrid, which have been communicated to the Spanish minister, and particularly of that which Count de Lagarde read to his Catholic Majesty in February last."

Lord Ellenborough gave notice, that he would on Thursday next submit a motion, which would afford their lordships an opportunity of expressing their opinion upon the conduct of ministers in the late negotiations which had taken place on the Continent.

The Marquis of Lansdown wished to receive answers to two questions which he was about to put to the noble earl opposite. The first question was, whether any answer had been returned by Mr. Secretary Canning to the despatch of the Duke of Wellington, contain-

ing the three questions of the French government, dated October 20, before December 6. The second question was, what information had been communicated to the Duke of Wellington respecting the causes of quarrel between France and Spain, between October 30 and November 12.

Lord Holland did not press the first of his motions, it being objected to by the Earl of Liverpool: the other three were agreed to.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, April 17.— Twenty-three petitions were presented against the Catholic claims,

and one in their favour.

A discussion upon the subject of the Catholic claims was then carried on at great length, in which Sir F. Burdett, Mr. Canning, Mr. Wynn, Lord Nugent, Mr. Peel, Mr. Tierney, and Mr. Brougham, were the speakers.

Mr. Tierney had said that ministers had deserted the question

of Catholic emancipation,

Mr. Brougham in the course of his speech observed—agreeing in almost every thing which had fallen from his right honourable friend on his left (Mr. Tierney); and having the worst possible opinion, which he did not now express for the first time, of the conduct of those who, in substanceand he arraigned them for so doing in substance—abandoned their duty to the question; who, not taking example by the single, manly, and upright conduct of the right hon. secretary (Mr. Peel), who had always been on the same side of the question, never swerving from bis opinions, but standing uniformly up and stating them — who had never taken office upon a secret understanding to abandon the question. in substance, while he continued

to sustain it in words - whose mouth, heart, and conduct, had always been in unison upon the question; and he wished that that conduct had been followed by all those on his (Mr. Brougham's) side of the question, and then he should not have found himself in a state almost bordering on despair as to the fate and fortune of Catholic claims. He said, let the conduct of the Attorney-General for Ireland have been what it might: let him have deviated from his former professions or not—he (Mr. Brougham) did not say that the honourable and learned gentleman had done so, but he would assume the fact-still, let the right hon. foreign secretary have come forward at that critical time for the question, and for his own character, when the point was whether he should go to India, into honourable exile, or take office in England, and not submit to his sentence of transportation, but be condemned to hard labour in his own countrydoomed to the disquiet of a divided council—sitting with his enemies, and pitied by his friends—with his bands chained and tied down on all those lines of operation which his own sentiments and wishes would have led him to adopt-let it have been at that critical moment, when his fate had depended upon Lord Chancellor Eldon, and his sentiments upon the Catholic cause-if at that critical moment be who had said on the last night that he would not truckle to a noble lord (Lord Folkestone), but who then had exhibited a specimen, the most incredible specimen of monstrous truckling for the purpose of obtaining office, which the whole history of political tergiversation could furnish—

Mr. Canning at this moment

interrupted the honourable member by saying, " I rise to say that it is false."

The Speaker, after a perfect silence in the house during some seconds, spoke. He hoped that the right honourable gentleman would retract the expression he had used. An individual of his high rank and station could not fail to be aware, that such an expression was a complete violation of the customs and of the orders of the house. He (the Speaker) deeply regretted that even in haste it should have been used.

Mr. Cunning was sorry to have used any word which was a violation of the decorum of the house; but no consideration on earth should induce him to retract the sentiment.

This Mr. Canning afterwards repeated, to further remonstrances from the Speaker, who called the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the house generally, to support him in his authority.

Mr. Bankes moved that the parties be taken into the custody of the Serjeant at arms. After further conversation, an eclair cissement took place, and Mr. Bankes withdrew his motion; the right hon. and the learned gentlemen each declaring they should think no more of it.

Mr. Hume and Mr. Spring Rice afterwards spoke; and Mr. Plunket moved "That this house will resolve itself into a committee to consider the state of the laws by which oaths or declarations are required to be taken or made, as qualifications for the enjoyment of office or the exercise of civil functions, as far as they affect his Majesty's Roman Catholic subjects; and whether it may be expedient, and in what manner, to alter and modify the same, and

subject

subject to what provisions and re-

gulations."

This was virtually lost by a question of adjournment being carried by \$13 against 111.—Adjourned.

House of Lords, April 18.— Lord Powerscourt took the oaths

and his seat.

A person from the commissioners of Richmond bridge presented their cash account for the year 1822.

Petitions were presented upon the subject of agricultural distress—the barilla duty—against the Catholic claims—the duty on hops—for a law for recovery of small debts—and against coal duty carried coastwise.

The Earl of Liverpool said, that in consequence of the questions put to him yesterday, he had availed himself of the interval which had elapsed, and should now be enabled to give answers to them. And first, with respect to the papers which were asked for. The answer of the plenipotentiaries of Austria, Russia, and Prussia, to the three questions submitted by France,there was an objection in point of form to placing that document on their lordships' table. The "copy of all the despatches of M. de Chateaubriand to the French minister at Madrid, which have been communicated to the Spanish minister, and particularly that which the Count de la Garde read to his Catholic Majesty in February last," there would be no objection to There would be a very giving. material paper relative to the "declarations made by this country to the allies since 1820, to induce them to abstain from interference in the affairs of Spain," which would be laid before the house.

and also the copy of the instructions prepared by the late secretary for foreign affairs, which his noble friend (the Duke of Wellington) afterwards received. This would clear up any little misunderstanding which might remain on that point. With respect to furnishing copies of all communications between the Spanish and English governments, in which the latter accused the French of fomenting disturbances in Spain, there was but one despatch in which the subject was alluded to, and that would be furnished; but there had been no formal communication made by the minister at Madrid to the secretary of state for foreign affairs. The answer of Mr. Secretary Canning to the Duke of Wellington's despatch, containing the three questions of the French government, sent before the 6th of December, he (the Earl of Liverpool) would beg to defer speaking to until Monday, when, if it could be produced, it should be laid on the table, In reply to the noble marquis (Lansdown) last night, he (the Earl of Liverpool) had said that no information had been received by the Duke of Wellington after the 30th of October, as to the cause of quarrel between France and Spain. The several despatches. in which the neutrality of Portugal was assured, would be produced on Monday next, at which time allthe other papers he had mentioned would be laid on the table.

The Marquis of Lansdown said, he meant to ask for the communication of any information of auofficial nature which had been given to the Duke of Wellington between the 30th of October and the 12th of November; for, from the different wording of the subsequent despatch, he must have received some such information, and it was quite impossible but he must have communicated it to his Majesty's ministers, for he (the Marquis of Lansdown) was quite sure the noble duke would not have been guilty of an omission so gross as the non-communication would be, when he knew that his Majesty's government were in a state of as great ignorance as he had been himself. As to the other point—the apparent omission for six weeks by Mr. Secretary Canning, of one of the most important communications ever made, he meant that of the 22d of October, by the Duke of Wellington—he (the Marquis of Lansdown) now understood that there were intermediate communications, and which the house might expect to have produced. But what he thought the house ought to have was, the first impression made on the minds of the King's government; and therefore he thought their lordships ought to have the first instructions which they had forwarded to the Duke of Wellington on the occasion.

Lord Ellenborough said, that he had observed in the newspapers a speech of the King of Spain to his Cortes in 1821, in which he told them that the congress at Laybach had given him assurances that they had no intention of acting hostilely against Spain. If this had been communicated to his Majesty's government, the paper containing it ought to be laid upon the table of the house.

The Earl of Liverpool said, he might have forgotten it, but he had no recollection of the existence of such a paper, and he believed that no such paper did exist.

The Earl of Darnley said, on the 31st of March all hopes were abandoned, and a despatch was sent to Sir Charles Stuart. What he (Lord Darnley) wished to know was, whether any formal protest against the whole of their proceedings was then delivered by Sir Charles Stuart to the French minister? Some such thing, he hoped, had been done, for the honour of the country; and if it had, he trusted the document would be laid on the table.

The Earl of Liverpool gave notice of a motion on the subject of appeals for Friday se'nnight.

The Earl of Darnley gave notice of a motion on the subject of our naval force for Monday next.

—Adjourned.

House of Commons, April 18.— Lord Crasborne brought up the report of the committee on the game laws, which he moved to be printed. He then gave notice of a motion on the subject.

Petitions were presented against the warehousing bill—the duty on stone carried coastwise—duty on coals, and malt—and for commutation of tithes.

Sir C. Long brought up the report of the committee regarding the appropriation of the late King's library.—Ordered to be printed.

The naval and military pensions bill was moved by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to be read a third time.—Carried by 140 against 91.

The merchant vessels apprentice bill was read a third time, and passed.

Lord Milton presented a petition from the archdeaconry of Cleveland, in favour of the Roman Catholic claims. Also from certain clergy of the diocese of York in favour of the same.

Mr. Macdonald gave notice, that

on Monday se'nnight (the earliest open day) he should bring forward a motion upon the papers lately produced by the right honourable Secretary for foreign affairs. The motion would probably take the form of an address to the crown. If he was not misinformed, the House of Lords was in possession, or was likely immediately to be, of some information beyond that upon which his motion was to be founded; and he wished to know whether the right honourable foreign secretary would add that information by way of supplement to the papers before the house, or whether he (Mr. Macdonald) abould move for them in form.

Mr. Canning said that he himself would undertake to move for

the papers in question.

Mr. Brougham, on the part of his honourable friend the member for Lincoln (Mr. J. Williams), gave notice of a motion for the 2d of May, to extend that law which made a Quaker's affirmation receivable in a court of justice, from civil to criminal cases.

The house then went into committee on the miscellaneous estimates, when the following items were voted:—499l. for repairs to Henry 7th's Chapel. 10,000% for the works at Edinburgh College. 12,847l. for sundry works at Portpatrick. 25,000l, for the Caledonian Canal. 5,300L for building an insolvent debtors' court. 30,000%. for building law courts in Westminster Hall. 24,9361. for defraying the expenses of the establishments on the Gold Coast for the current year. 5,214l. 17s. for the salaries and retired allowances of the officers in the Alien Office. 15,000l. for carrying into execution the awards of the Mixed Commis-

sion for the abolition of the slavetrade. 18,700l. for the remuneration and incidental expenses of the commissioners engaged in carrying into effect the treaties for the abolition of the slave-trade between the King of Great Britain and the governments of Spain, Portugal, and the Netherlands. 150,000% to his Majesty, for defraying bills drawn, or to be drawn, for the colony of New South Wales. 2,4421. 10s. to his Majesty, for defraying certain expenses of the colonial departments, formerly paid out of the extraordinaries of the army for 6,250l. to make compensation to the commissioners appointed to inquire into the management and collection of the revenue in Ireland, and the several establishments connected therewith, in compensation for their assiduity. pains, and care, in the discharge of the trust reposed in them by parliament; the same to be paid without any fee or deduction whatever. 5,000l. for the support of the institution called the Refuge for the Destitute, for the year 1823; to be paid without any fee or deduction whatever. 3,2791. 5s. for defraying the charges of the civil establishments of the Bahama Islands. for the year 1823. 1,522l. 1s. 4d. for defraying the like charges for the islands of Bermuda, for the same year. 600l. for defraying the like charges for the islands of Dominica, for the year 1823. 12,232/. for defraying the charges of the civil establishments of Upper Canada, for the year 1823. 18,140/. for defraying the civil establishment of Nova Scotia. 6,157*l*. 10s. for the civil establishment of New Brunswick. 3,5201, 15s. for the civil establishment of Prince Edward's Island. 15,222l. for the civil civil establishment of New South Wales. 22,8161. 17s. for the civil establishment of Sicrra Leone. The house then resumed, and the report was ordered to be received on Monday. The other orders of the day were then disposed of.—Adjourned.

House of Lords, April 22.—A petition was presented for the miti-

gation of slavery.

Mr. Brogden, accompanied by several other members of the House of Commons, brought up the merchant seamen's apprenticeship, the naval and military pensions, and warehousing bills, and several local bills, which were severally read the first time.

Lord Holland rose for the purpose of moving for copies or extracts of all communications made by his Majesty's government to his most faithful Majesty the King of Portugal, respecting the neutrality of Portugal, in case of hostilities between France and Spain.

The Earl of Liverpool replied that he would not undertake then to say, that it would be proper to lay that paper upon the table, but it had been admitted, most fully, that if Portugal were attacked, this country must defend her; but if she attacked, as in all defensive alliances, no such obligation existed.

Lord Holland then withdrew his motion.

The Marquis of Lansdown requested that papers relating to the slave-trade and to the Austrian loan might be communicated to the house.

The Earl of Liverpool said, that with respect to the slave-trade, though he had not thought it right to intermingle the papers with those already on the table, yet there was no objection, and it was always the intention of his Majesty's govern-

ment, to lay the whole of the negotiations on that subject, either at Vorona or elsewhere, before Parliament. With regard to the Austrian loan, when the questions were put to him by the noble marquis opposite, he (the Earl of Liverpool) had stated that a negotiation was in considerable forwardness, and that the principle with respect to the compromise had been agreed to. was what he had then stated; and he had reason to believe that the arrangement would have been completed if it had not been for some circumstances which had taken place since the meeting of Parliament-he meant circumstances affecting the public funds of most of the countries of Europe.

The Earl of Darnley called the attention of the house to the generally inefficient state of the navy in time of peace, and thought it right to be always prepared for immediate war. His lordship moved for a return of the guard ships in the ports of Great Britain and Ireland, with their respective complements of men and guns.

After a few words from Lord Melville, the motion was negatived without a division.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, April 22.—
Petitions were presented against the coal duty—for parliamentary reform: one of these was signed by 17,000 names, and was 380 feet long—against the new beer bill—the slave-trade—the Irish union duties.

Sir Francis Burdett rose to bring forward his motion relative to the Dublin grand jury. After stating at length his reasons for moving an inquiry, he concluded with the following resolution:

"That the statement made by the Attorney-General for Ireland, in his place, on the 15th of April, respecting the proceedings on the trial of James Forbes, William Graham, Matthew Handwich, and Henry Handwich, renders it incumbent on this house to institute a strict examination into the conduct of the sheriffs."

The discussion occupied the house until a very late hour, when the motion was carried by 219 against 185.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of.—Adjourned.

House of Lords, April 24.—Mr. Wallace, Mr. Brogden, and others, brought up several bills from the Commons, which were read a first time. Among them was the warehousing bill.

The Duke of Buckingham presented a petition from the University of Oxford against the Catholic claims.

Lord Suffield presented a petition from Norfolk, complaining of agricultural distress.

The Marquis of Bute wished to be informed whether it was the intention of his Majesty's ministers to apply any part of the sum granted for building churches to the building of additional churches in Scotland.

Lord Melville intimated that the subject had not escaped the attention of government, and that it was his intention to propose the appropriation of a sum to the building of additional churches in certain parishes in Scotland.

The Marquis of Lansdown availed himself of the first opportunity which occurred to him, of stating a circumstance of great importance relative to Ireland, which had just come to his knowledge. He had heard that the hierarchy of Ireland had determined to petition the two houses of parliament against

the commutation of tithes. should be glad to know when it was intended to agitate this question. He was aware that it was not at all necessary to give notice of the time when a petition was to be presented; but when the subject was one of such great importance, he thought a departure from the usual course would be proper. He was himself intrusted with a petition on the same subject, and would wish. if it were convenient, to submit it to their lordships on the same day that the other might be presented.

Lord Ellenborough made his promised motion upon the papers laid before parliament. His lordship went into their detail at great length, and concluded by moving,

"That an address be presented to his Majesty, offering to his Majesty our humble thanks for the communication his Majesty has been graciously pleased to make to this house of certain papers relating to the late negotiations at Verona, Paris, and Madrid.

"To express our deep regret that the desire manifested by his Majesty for the preservation of peace between France and Spain has proved ineffectual.

"At the same time to represent to his Majesty that the course of negotiation pursued by his Majesty's ministers was not in our judgment calculated to support the honour and just interests of the British people, or to afford any reasonable expectation of averting the war which is now commenced.

"To state to his Majesty that we have learnt with just indignation that the French King, regardless of all such representations as may have been made to him on the part of his Majesty, and no less forgetful of the powerful assist-

ance which had so lately contributed to his restoration, than of that right which all nations possess to regulate for themselves the internal institutions of their governments, has proceeded to make an unprovoked and unjustifiable attack on Spain, the preservation of whose independence has been at all times, and is for the most obvious reasons more especially at present, an essential object of British policy, as necessary to the safety of his Majesty's oldest and most faithful ally, and to the security of his Majesty's domipions.

"To acquaint his Majesty that we most highly disapprove of the conduct of his Majesty's ministers in having, for the sake and at the desire of France, suggested to the Spanish people the expediency of making alterations in their constitution similar to those which France proposed as the alternative of hostilities, even without having received any positive assurance that such concession on the part of Spain would secure her from further interference in her internal affairs; and in having shown throughout the whole course of the late negotiations more solicitude to save the French government from disgrace and danger than to maintain the interests of Spain, which must have been endangered by the slightest concession on the demand of a foreign power, and under the menace of a foreign war as the penalty of her refusal.

"To represent to his Majesty, that on a review of the whole conduct of the French government during the late transactions, we can place no reliance on their disavowal of all views of ambition and aggrandizement, or on their assurances

that they will respect the independence of Portugal.

"To assure his Majesty, that when we reflect that the successful assertion of the principle now acted upon by France would endanger the security of every constitutional government, and that its immediate consequence must be the re-establishment of that ascendancy over Spain, which it has been at all times the undoubted object of France to acquire, we cannot hesitate to express the most ardent wishes for the triumph of the Spanish nation in the just and honourable conflict in which it is engaged.

"To declare to his Majesty that in the opinion of this house a more prompt, decisive, and unequivocal policy would, under all the circumstances of France and of Europe have afforded the best hopes of preventing the commencement of a war, in which we cannot but apprehend that increasing dangers may at no remote period, and under circumstances of accumulated difficulty, compel this country to

engage."

Lord Harrowby defended the conduct of ministers: Lord Holland took the opposite part. After which Lord Granville moved an amend-The amendment, in substance, assured his Majesty of the entire concurrence of that house in the measures that had been pursued by his Majesty's ministers; acknowledged their lordships' sense of his Majesty's endeavours to preserve the peace of Europe; expressed their regret to find that those endeavours had failed of their effect; and their satisfaction that his Majesty had not consented to become a party to a war in which neither the interests nor the honour of the country were involved:

it declared their lordships' assent to the principles laid down in those papers generally, and the manner in which they had been acted upon in the particular case of Spain. The address concluded by declaring their lordships' belief that it was our policy to preserve peace: and their assurance, at the same time, that at all times they would be perfectly ready to support his Majesty in any measures that might be deemed necessary for the preservation of the national faith. the just dignity of the crown, and the rights and property of the people.

Afterwards, the Duke of Buckingham, the Earl of Aberdeen, the Duke of Wellington, the Earl of Liverpool, spoke in favour of ministers; and the Duke of Sussex, Earl Grey, the Marquis of Lansdown, Lord Alvanley, against them. The discussion was continued to a very late hour,—half-past two o'clock, when the house divided—For the amendment, 142—Against it, 48.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, April 24.— Mr. Canning appeared at the bar of the house, and presented some papers by order of his Majesty.

Petitions were presented against the Southwark court of requests bill—the Holyhead and Howth harbours bill—the Portsmouth fishery bill—for parhamentary reform—for alteration in the game laws—upon agricultural distress—against the duty on coals—the duty on barilla.

On the motion of Mr. Attwood, an account was ordered of the prices of bar-iron, copper sheathing, bolts, &c., contracted for by the Navy Board since 1819. A similar account was ordered regard-

ing contracts entered into by the Board of Ordnance.

Sir F. Burdett moved that the order for the attendance of the Sheriff of Dublin be discharged.

Mr. Brougham approved of the course about to be pursued: tomorrow the inquiry could not be commenced with any regard either to regularity or justice. The only witness at present summoned was the sheriff of Dublin, and he was a party concerned, and could not, at present at least, be examined. The sheriff might be heard at any time he thought it expedient: but in the mean time it became the house to act with regularity, and in the first instance to ascertain whether any charges should be brought forward by adducing the evidence.

The order was then discharged, and postponed until to-morrow se'nnight.

Sir F. Burdett moved that the following, among other witnesses, be summoned; their names were contained in a list handed to him by Mr. Plunket:—R. Fletcher, B. Smith, W. Graham, G. Atkins, J. M'Connel, D. Smith, J. Atkins, H. Cooper, H. Noble, F. Gould.

It was ordered that they attend the house on this day se'nnight. It was also ordered that the panels of grand juries of 1822 and 1823 be laid before the house, and that the clerk of the crown do attend with them.

Lord John Russell brought forward his annual motion for parliamentary reform, which was seconded by Lord Normanby, but lost by 280 against 169.

House of Lords, April 25.—Sir W. Muxwell, Lord Stanley, and Mr. Curwen, accompanied by several other members of the House of

Commons.

Commons, brought up a number of private bills, which were read the first time.

A person from the trustees of Liverpool Docks presented the annual account of their receipts and disbursements.

Petitions were presented for the repeal of the coal duties—for a law for the recovery of small debts—against the Union duties—from the cotton-weavers of Manchester, complaining of the distress occasioned by the use of machinery—against the duties on leather—against the game laws—for a commutation of tithes.

The Earl of Liverpool moved for the appointment of a committee to consider the state of the administration of justice as respected ap-

peals in that house.

The motion was agreed to, and the committee named: in the list, amongst others, were the Lord Chancellor, the Earl of Aberdeen, Lord Redesdale, Lord Colchester, Lord Kenyon, the Marquis of Lanadown, Lord Cawdor, and Lord Bexley.

The bills on the table were for-

warded one stage.

The Duke of Montrose presented papers by his Majesty's command.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, April 25.— Lord Cranborne brought in a bill to legalize the sale of game.—It was read a first time.

Sir G: Clerk moved the order of the day for the third reading of the weights and measures bill.

The bill was then read a third

time,

Sir G. Clerk said, that he had been desired by an honourable member for London, to introduce a clause into the bill, to save the right of gauging to the city of Lon-

don. He did not himself think it necessary, but he had no objection to introduce it to satisfy the fears of the worthy alderman opposite (Wood).

The clause was agreed to, after a few remarks from Mr. Alderman

Wood

The bill was then passed.

The report of the grand jury presentments (Ireland) bill was received.

The masters and apprentices bill was read a second time.—Committed for Monday se'nnight

Mr. G. Bennet moved for copies of the letter of Mr. Hutchinson to the commissioners, respecting the diet of the Penitentiary, and the report on the death of Mary Brenton. He prefaced the motion with various recitals respecting the treatment of the inmates of that establishment.

A long conversation then ensued, in the course of which, Mr. Holford vindicated the conduct of the committee, and stated the readiness with which they had applied to proper medical persons, as soon as any doubts had been entertained respecting the nature of the disease with which the prisoners were afflicted.

Sir Joseph Yorke complained of the dismissal of Mr. Copland Hutchinson, the medical attendant of the establishment.

Alderman Wood expressed his opinion that the swampy nature of the ground on which the Penitentiary was built, was one great cause of the mortality that prevailed there; and be contrasted the healthy state of other prisons during the last winter, with the disease which raged in the Penitentiary, as a proof that the cold was not the cause of the distemper.

Mr. Peel read an extract from the report to show that the medical gentlemen did not attribute the production of the disease to the situation on which the prison was built.

After a few words from Alderman Wood and Mr. Monck, the motion

was agreed to.

It was then read, and its several clauses agreed to.

The house then went into a committee upon the Irish militia reduction bill.

In the committee, Mr. Skeffington proposed an additional clause, which was agreed to. The house then resumed, and the report was ordered to be received on Monday next. The Union duties bill went through a committee. In answer to a question put by Mr. S. Rice, Mr. Frankland Lewis stated, that it was in contemplation to continue the protecting duties to Irish blanketing, if it should be found to come within the description of drapery.

The house resumed. --- Report on

Monday.

Colonel Barry stated that he held in his hand a list of witnesses that it would be necessary to summon en the approaching investigation into the conduct of the Sheriff of Dublin; but some of them were so poor, that unless pecuniary assistance were afforded them, it would not be in their power to attend the house.

Mr. Goulburn said, he believed there was no example of any advances being made in the first instance. The house had the power to compel the attendance of persons, at whatever inconvenience: he was not, therefore, prepared to say that in this case a contrary precedent should be established.

After a few words from Sir J. Newport and Mr. Daly, the motion was agreed to, and the witnesses ordered to attend the house on Monday the 5th of May next.

The panel of the Dublin grand jury was also ordered to be laid before the house on the same day.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the house adjourned.

House of Lords, April 28.— Petitions were presented against the insolvent debtors' act—the marriage act—for protecting duties on the products of the soil upon agricultural distress—for the Catholic claims.

Lord Calthorpe moved for reports of the committee of the Commons upon the subject of the game laws. The naval and military pension bill was read a third time, and passed. — The bills on the table were forwarded one stage.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, April 28.— General Gascoyne postponed till the 6th of May his motion regarding half-pay officers.

The quorum magistrates bill went through a committee.—Report on

Friday.

Mr. Hume postponed until the 27th of May his motion regarding the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

On the motion of Mr. Hume, returns were ordered of the number of vessels employed in the whale fisheries during the last ten years, and of the manner in which 22.056l. expended in the Lord Chamberlain's department for plate for foreign ambassadors and governors, had been laid out.

Mr. Hume presented a petition from a surveyor of taxes, named White, complaining that he had

been

been dismissed, without due cause, from his employment. Mr. White, the hon, gentleman said, had been a public servant twenty-nine years; nine years as a confidential messenger to the late Mr. Pitt, and the rest of the time as a collector of taxes. He was now, without having committed any offence, and merely upon the strength of an anonymous letter, written to the board of taxes against him, deprived of his office, and consequently of his livelihood. This sentence of the board of taxes had been confirmed by the Treasury; no opportunity afforded to him of making his defence. The truth was, that Mr. White had made himself unpopular by detecting and exposing certain frauds in the collection of the land-tax which had taken place within his division. The existence of those frauds was fully demonstrated by papers which were lying upon the table of the house, and which were open to the inspection of members; but the discovery of them was thus, in an underhand way, to be visited upon the petitioner. He should hereafter move for papers upon the subject of the peculations to which he had referred, and for a committee to take the matter fully into consideration.

Sir W. de Crespigny supported

the petition.

Mr. Lushington declared that the credulity of the hon. member for Aberdeen had been imposed upon. The petitioner had been dismissed upon the fullest inquiry, with means of defence allowed him, and in despite of a feeling entertained in his favour on account of his long services. The offence which had made his dismissal absolutely necessary was this:—

Being himself a surveyor of taxes, he had made a return contrary to law as to the windows of the house which he occupied.

Mr. Hume was prepared to meet the whole complaint against the petitioner. The act which was to be construed into a fraudulent return, was only that he had stopped up some windows in his house with wood-work instead of filling them with brick. This was not an offence to dismiss a man for, after twenty-nine years' service. The real offence was the petitioner's having exposed the frauds.

The petition was ordered to be

printed.

Mr. Curwen presented a petition from Captain Manby, praying for some compensation for the trouble and expense he had incurred in improvements on the means of preserving persons in danger from drowning.

Petitions were presented against the leather-tax—the duty on coals—the slave trade.

Mr. Serjeunt Onslow brought in a bill to alter the laws respecting usury, which was read a first time.

Mr. J. Williams thought that the state of the courts of equity was such as to require deliberation as speedily as possible; he therefore gave notice that he would on Wednesday se'nnight move for a committee to inquire whether or not some alterations were necessary in the jurisdictions of equity.

Mr. Bankes gave notice, that he would move in the next committee of supply, for the estimate of the expenses for the British Museum.

A message from the Lords requested a copy of the report of the committee on the game laws; to which-the house replied, that they

Mohita

would communicate with their Lordships by a messenger of their

Mr. Nolan postponed his motion on the poor laws till to-morrow.

Mr. Macdonald rose upon the subject of foreign affairs. thought it became the people of England to express their sentiments then in a fearless manner. allies meant nothing but destruction to liberty, and from them we had most to fear. Spain was not so much divided into parties as had been represented; and in that country and this, the utmost unanimity had ever prevailed when war was carried on for the protection of its liberties against France. The hon. gent. then went into detail upon the correspondence with Russia, the negotiations at Verona, and those at Madrid, upon each of which he animadverted. Whatever might be the contempt, and it was great, which he felt for the Freuch ministers, he could not charge them with duplicity towards this Towards Portugal, incountry. deed, they had been guilty of the grossest duplicity; but our ministers had deceived themselves .--Could any one observe the quizsing, the persistage, which pervaded those papers, and doubt what was the intention of the French ministers from the first? The right honourable gentleman affected to think, that the apprehensions of the Portuguese might be allayed, and that the ambitious projects of the French would not be carried into effect with respect to that country. He knew not, however, on what ground the right hon, gentleman had told the house, that if France succeeded, the government would still be administered in the person of Ferdinand. He did not coincide

in that opinion. The house must recollect that when Joseph Bonaparte was King of Spain, and an absolute monarch too, his brother Napoleon, on account of the ties of consanguinity, made a survey of that country, and rendered wholly dependent on France. What was to prevent a similar proceeding now? Would not the fleets and resources of Spain be under the control of France, and could any person doubt that France would make use of them? The right hon, gent, had stated, that the possession of the Spanish territory would be useless to France. now that Spain had lost her extensive commerce. But did the right hon, gent, mean to contend, that the possession of a line of coast, from Holland to Gibraltar, and up the Straits, until they come to that part which was under the Austrian protection, was a matter of no importance? Why, only a few nights ago, an honourable member had made the horrible declaration in that house, that 5,000,000 of the people of Ireland were ready to destroy the extremely small minority of their fellow-countrymen, and to unite themselves with a foreign power. This stood uncontradicted. Now, if France were possessed of the whole coast of Spain, would not she possess a fair opportunity for fomenting those dissensions?— What, he should be glad to know, would prevent those crusaders from acting against this country, by assisting those who were described to be disaffected in Ireland? They had no security whatsoever that France would not so proceed. Let the coquetting of ministers with the tyrants and despots of Europe be what it might, the hatred they bore to this country was incarable

curable and implacable. Those tyrants said, by their conduct, "Wait only till we have subjugated Spain-wait only till we have closed the doors of those legislative assemblies which have been formed in such of the German states, the princes of which have dared to redeem the pledge which they gave when they promised their people a free constitutionwait only till Austria is in possession of all Italy—wait only till France has trampled Spain under her feet-wait only till the Russian flag floats on the Dardanelles and in the Morea, and then, proud islanders, your time will come." He was sorry to have been compelled to trespass so long on their attention; but the subject was a most important one, and called for the most serious consideration. What would be the issue of this tremendous struggle, which was to decide whether Europe was to become one vast military despotism, baffled human foresight and human calculation. It might be that the crime which Buona parte, in the plenitude of his power, had failed to effect, a Bourbon, surrounded by bigots, would be able to accomplish. But if it were so, the responsibility rested on the heads of the British ministry. He hoped in God that France might fail in her attempt. Still, however, the event was doubtful, and she might succeed.

" Committant eadem diverso crimina fato,
" [lle crucem pretium sceleris, tulit hic diadoma."

Whatever might be the issue, he called on that house to do its duty this night, by stating to his Majesty in an humble address, that his ministers had not performed 1823.

their's. The motion he should propose would be-

"That an humble address be presented to his Majesty, to inform his Majesty that this house has taken into its most serious consideration the papers relating to the late negotiation, which have been laid before them by his Majesty's gracious command.

" To represent to his Majesty, that the disappointment of his Majesty's benevolent solicitude to preserve general peace, appears to this house to have, in a great measure, arisen from the failure of his ministers to make the most earnest, vigorous, and solemn protest against the pretended right of the sovereigns, assembled at Verona, to make war on Spain on account of her political institutions; as well as against the subsequent pretension of the French government to deny that nations can lawfully enjoy any civil privileges but from the spontaneous grant of their kings - principles destructive of the rights of all independent states -which strike at the root of the British constitution, and are subversive of his Majesty's legitimate title to the throne.

" Farther, to declare to his Majesty, the surprise and sorrow with which this house has observed that his Majesty's ministers should have advised the Spanish government, while so unwarrantably menaced. to alter their constitution in the hope of averting invasion; a concession which alone would have involved the total sacrifice of national independence; and which was not even palliated by an assurance, from France, that, on receiving so dishonourable a submission, she would desist from her unprovoked aggression:

M "Finally,

"Finally, to represent to his Majesty, that, in the judgment of this house, a tone of more dignified remonstrance would have been better calculated to preserve the peace of the Continent, and thereby to secure this nation more effectually from the hazard of being involved in the calamities of war.

Mr. S. Wortley said, the true question was, whether upon the whole ministers had not acted wisely in preferring neutrality to remonstrance, and supporting that remonstrance by force. In his opinion, they had; he therefore moved the following amendment.

(After thanks for communication, as in the first paragraph of the ori-

ginal motion,)

"To assure his Majesty of our entire concurrence in the principles which his Majesty has repeatedly declared, with respect to interference in the internal concerns of independent nations, and in his Majesty's just application of those principles, in the course of the late negotiations, to the case of Spain.

"To acknowledge with gratitude his Majesty's earnest and unwearied endeavours to preserve the

peace of Europe.

"To express our deep regret that those endeavours have proved unavailing; and while we rejoice that his Majesty has not become party to a war in which niether honour, nor treaty, nor the welfare of his Majesty's dominions required his Majesty to engage, to assure his Majesty that, highly as we estimate the advantages of peace, particularly at the present moment, we shall be at all times ready to afford to his Majesty our most zealous and affectionate support, in any measures which his Majesty may

find necessary, to fulfil the obligations of national faith, to vindicate the dignity of his crown, or to maintain the rights and interests of

his people."

Afterwards Mr. Hobhouse, Sir W. De Crespigny, Mr. Wilberforce and other members, spoke at great length, most of whom gave their opinion in favour of neutrality, but that ministers had not made remonstrances sufficiently strong.

The debate was adjourned at twelve o'clock, until to-morrow.

House of Lords, April 29.—A person from the office of the Directors of Margate pier presented their annual accounts.

Mr. Davies Gilbert, accompanied by several other members of the House of Commons, brought up the weights and measures, and several private bills.

Lord Rolle presented a petition from Oakhampton, against the duties on coals carried coastways.

On the motion of the Earl of Clare, it was ordered that the Commons be requested to communicate a copy of the report of last session, of the committee appointed on the petitions from the city of Limerick. ---Adjourned.

House of Commons, April 29.— Petitions were presented upon the subject of agricultural distressagainst the leather tax—the duty on coals—for a duty on the importation of foreign flaxen yarnagainst the duty on stone carried coastwise.

Mr. Creevey gave notice, that on the 22d May, he should bring forward a motion upon the subject of the four and a half per cent. duties in the Leeward Islands.

Mr. Kennedy, after observing upon the propriety of facilitating. and improving the communication

between

between Sectland and the other parts of the united kingdom, moved for a committee to examine into the condition of the line of road from Glasgow to Port Patrick.

Sir John Newport moved that Sir A. Bradley King and William Stothard be required to attend the house on Monday next.—Ordered.

Sir George Hill moved for various returns connected with the linen trade of Ireland, which were ordered.

Mr. Hume moved for copies of all correspondence which had passed between Mr. George White and the Board of Taxes, and the Lords of the Treasury, respecting frauds on the revenue.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer did not object to the production of the papers, except the honourable member had it in contemplation to ground any charge against the government upon them, on account of the dismission of Mr. White. In the latter case he must object, because the control of the public servants must be left with the heads of the departments, and nothing could be so inconvenient as for the house to take upon itself to judge of the circumstances which might lead to the dismissal of those persome who were engaged in the public service.

Mr. Cultraft protested against the doctrine advanced by the right honourable gentleman.

Mr. Cenning said that the motion, as he perceived, was divided into three portions: the first called for correspondence respecting malversation or frauds committed upon the revenue. For that series the hon, gent, would be fully entitled to call; but not so far the second and third, which respected the dismissal of the individual in ques-

tion; because that was assuming that the dismissal took place upon grounds which were not justifiable.

The papers were ordered for the first motion.

Mr. Hume moved for copies of all correspondence which had passed between Mr. George White and the boards before mentioned, comcerning his dismissal; also of the correspondence which took place between him and Joseph Sabine, inspector of taxes, upon the foregoing subjects. As aur instance of the malversation which it was his design to bring before the view of the house, they might take this for an example:—Supposing the division of Kensington, which was the one in question, to be rated at 2,000l., it would be found that the sums raised upon that division were 2,500%, the difference being most profusely and wantonly divided and expended among those concerned in the collection. He calculated that the people of England lost by this course no. less, a sum than \$00,0001.

The Chancellon of the Exchequer applained.

... Mr. Hume then moved for other papers connected with the same subject, which, after a few words from Mr. Lushington, were ordered.

Mr. Hume moved that returns of the assessments on the division of Kensington be ordered by the house to be made forthwith.—Ordered.

Mr. G. Bennet postponed, on behalf of Mr. Western, the motion on cash payments, of which the latter gentleman had given notice, till Wednesday the 28th.

Ms. Whitmore rose upon the adjourned debate of Foreign Affairs. He thought ministers had acted a 2 indiscreetly

indiscreetly in acting undecidedly, and that they had only purchased present tranquillity, and not lasting peace; that this aggression of France was the first step of attack upon the liberties of Europe. He supported the address.

Mr. Curwen thought that the country generally would have disapproved a war, but he wished that the sentiments of his Majesty's ministers had been more forcibly expressed. He should vote for the

amendment.

Mr. Robertson thought the present peace only a delusive one, and that a war with France, in defence of Spain, would not injure either the manufacturing or agricultural interests.

Mr. J. Williams was in favour of more determined measures, and that England should not have remained neutral.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, had we stepped forward to assist the Spaniards, it would have been only taking the side of one part of the country against the other; that the people were divided, a civil war raged, and the monarchy was supported by the peasantry and most numerous classes; there had been no desire upon the part of this government to withhold the blessing of liberty from Spain; that in all these cases, it is the interest of England to keep aloof from the Continent: that the principles of liberty will make their own way in spite of all attempts upon the part of the allied sovereigns to put them down; that the increasing intelligence of the age will do more than any thing else in advancing them; that at Verona, ministers adopted that line of conduct which appeared most likely to succeed, which was not threat or remonstrance, but to point out to the powers the dangerous course they were pursuing.

Sir J. Macintosh was pleased to hear the sentiments of execration which had been expressed throughout the country upon the subject of the French invasion, and lamented the undecided tone of ministers; that the union of the crowns of France and Spain was a consequence to be feared and opposed, and that, so late as 1779, these powers had planned an invasion of Ireland, and actually appointed a regent.

Mr. Peel said, that neither the house, nor the interests of the country, nor the faith of treaties, nor the voice of the people, required

war.

Afterwards, Sir Francis Burdett and some other members spoke, and the house adjourned.

House of Lords, April 30.— Lord Cranborne brought up from the Commons the report of the select committee on the game laws.

Mr. Spring Rice brought up the Irish charitable loans society's bill, which was read a first time; also the report of the select committee on the local taxation of the city of Limerick.

The warehousing and profane swearing bills went through a committee, and were reported without any amendments. The other bills on the table were forwarded one stage.

Lord Cawdor moved for papers respecting the administration of justice in Wales, and gave notice of his intention to make a motion on the subject on Tuesday next.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, April 30.— Petitions were presented for a duty on the importation of yarn—against the leather tax—for the abolition of slavery—against the coal duty.

On the motion of Mr. Spring Rice,

Rice, a return was ordered of the common council of Dublin, distinguishing such as belonged to the guild of merchants: also, copies of proclamations by the Lord Mayor of Dublin, regarding dressing the statue of King William, and of the resolutions of the common council relating to the same. It was also ordered that the town clerk of Dublin attend the house on Friday se'nnight.

Mr. H. G. Bennet, in pursuance of previous notice, rose to move for leave to bring in a bill to abolish punishment by whipping. He contended, that this species of infliction was neither exemplary nor reformatory: it was one of the last relics of barbarism, and it was high time that it was got rid of. If there existed no secondary punishments for minor offences, there might be some reason for retaining it; but the secondary punishment of hard labour was more effectual in every way; it neither brutalized nor disgraced the criminal, but gave him habits of industry, or at least showed him what industry was, and its advantages. The hon. gent. challenged any man to produce an instance in which the punishment of whipping had done any thing but mischief: he had made many inquiries, and nearly all persons admitted it to be a positive evil. By returns upon the table, it appeared that no less than 6,959 persons had been flogged for various offences within the last seven years. The hon. gentleman concluded by stating some objections to the 20th Geo. II., which enabled a single magistrate to commit a refractory servant to be flogged; he had known many instances where the guilty had escaped, because magistrates were reluctant to subject them to such a degradation.

Mr. Curwen in a few words seconded the motion.

Mr. Alderman C. Smith asserted, from his own experience, that many prisoners at the Old Bailey would rather submit to twelve months' imprisonment, than suffer a whipping.

The Attorney-general was aware that any person opposing the motion, must subject himself to the charge of inhumanity: nevertheless, he felt called upon to say, that, as far as his inquiries had gone, he had been led to think that whipping was a very salutary punishment.

Mr. Lennard observed, that the principle had been admitted in the abolition of the practice of whipping females, and he saw every reason for carrying it farther. It was a punishment that might have different effects upon different minds; and it might be slight or severe, according to the pleasure of the executioner.

Mr. Dawson saw no sufficient ground for the motion, and, if necessary, he would take the sense of the house upon it. Without whipping, magistrates would not be able to compel subordination and

discipline in prisons.

Mr. Hobbouse called upon the hon, gent. who spoke last, or upon any other member, to show any statute by which magistrates were anthorized to flog, for the purpose of keeping up the discipline of pri-Whipping was the sentence of a court, and, he believed, could not be inflicted without it. Most of all be disapproved of private flogging, since all the beneficial effect of example was lost to the public. It was then nothing else but torture, which was totally repugnant to the spirit of the English law. Whipping, whether public or private, destroyed that self-respect which rendered men useful members of society. In the flavy he was convinced that it did great injury, and he had known an instance of the captain of a ship who was obliged to sleep with armed sentries at his cabin-door, because, as he himself said, all his men were so hardened by frequent flogging, that they were prepared for the commission of any crime.

Mr. N. Culvert saw no reason why, if flogging were abolished in prisons, it should not be abolished in schools. If it were true that it destroyed all self-respect, he was surrounded by hon, gentlemen who could not have a particle of it remaining, from the many castigations they had suffered in their youth.

Mr. S. Bourne agreed that the punishment of whipping, in order to be salutary, ought to be public; but objected decidedly to the total discontinuance of it. He thought that in the case of a hardened offender, it was often attended with most advantageous effects.

Mr. J. Smith supported the motion upon principle. He thought that the flogging at public schools had nothing to do with the question. "Still; the practice at schools was a good deal changed of late; there was not so much flogging in those establishments as there had formerly beeh.

Mr. Holne Sumner opposed the bill, and hoped it would not be brought in. At all events, he trusted that there would be a clause continuing the punishment as it regarded juvenile offenders.

Sir Isaac Coffin declared that in the whole course of his naval experience he had never heard of such a case as that described by

. . .

the hon member for Westminster. He thought it impossible that the story could be well founded. He had himself commanded the Merlampus, during the late war, for fourteen months, and during the whole of that period punished only one man.

Mr. Hobhouse said, that he had not been on board the ship in which the fact was stated to have occurred.

Mr. Peel, Dr. Lushington, and other members, afterwards spoke, when the house divided—For the motion 37, against it 70.

Mr. Bankes postponed his motion for the estimates of the British Museum, which he had intended to move in the committee of supply.

Mr. Hume moved for an account of the promotions which had taken place within the year in the navy.

— Ordered.

The bringing up the report of the beer bill—the committees of supply and of ways and means, were postponed till Monday.

The report of the Irish estimates was brought up, and various resolutions respectively agreed to.

On the motion of Dr. Lushingston, the house went into a committee on the slave-trade acts consolidation bill, and the report was ordered to be received on Friday next.

The house then resolved itself into a committee on the miscellaneous estimates, when the several resolutions were agreed to, and the report ordered to be received to-morrow.

Mr. Herries brought up the Irish excise duties' regulation bill, which was read a first and second time, and ordered to be committed to-morrow.

s .....The

The order of the day was then read for the adjournment of the debate on the subject of foreign affairs.

The Speaker having read the original resolution and the amendment.

Mr. C. W. Wynn rose, and at considerable length supported the amendment.

Mr. Leycester thought ministers well-intentioned, but that "they had been too civil by half."

Mr. W. Williams supported the motion. Mr. Peel defended ministers. Colonel Davies supported the motion. Mr. Twiss opposed it.

Sir F. Blake deprecated neutrality, as did Lord Folkestone.

Mr. E. J. Littleton thought the majority of the country in favour of peace.

Mr. Canning next spoke at very great length; he defended every point of the negotiation, and concluded by observing that both the interests and the honour of the country were preserved by the course of neutrality.

Mr. Brougham deprecated the conduct of ministers, but advised his friend (Mr. Macdonald) to withdraw his motion, and that the house should not divide upon it, as he feared, in the present instance, the division would leave a false impression upon the public mind of the opinions of the house.

The Lord Mayor (Mr. Heygate) supported the amendment.

Mr. Macdonald asked leave to withdraw his motion, which was refused.

Mr. Canning then rose and said, "After having suffered for three long nights, the constant, unremitting, unsparing, lectures of gentlemen opposite, for a too ready concession to the views of foreign

powers, it is now incumbent upon us to say, that we have to profit by the lesson of experience which these gentlemen have taught us, in return for our former alleged facility of concession, and to decline assenting to the proposal for withdrawing the original motion. am ready to admit with the hon. gentlemen opposite, that their motion is now unintelligible, and I am satisfied with the amendment of which they partially complain. repeat, however, that I cannot concur in the suggestion of withdrawing the original motion."

The gallery was then cleared for a division, amid a great noise, and cries of "Divide, divide."

The opposition, who had determined not to divide, in order that there might go forth to the world an unanimous expression of ' abhorrence of the conduct of France, rose in a body to leave the Some ministerial members below the bar, however, called for a division, in consequence of which the doors were closed, and the opposition were compelled to remain This event was in the house. hailed by the ministerial members with loud and repeated cheers. The Speaker then put the question on the original motion, which was carried in the negative. He next put the question on the amendment -the ministerial members cried "Ay:" the opposition remained silent. The Speaker declared that the question was carried in the Some members on affirmative. the Treasury-bench, anxious that a division should take place, called out that the " Noes" had the majority, The Speaker was then compelled to divide: he ordered those who intended to vote for the amendment

to go into the lobby, and those who meant to vote against it to remain in the house. The opposition proceeded into the lobby, together with the ministerial voters; but a few members on both sides were shut in the house in consequence of the lobby being too small to contain

the united numbers. This caused an appearance of a division, when in fact there was none.

The numbers were announced to be as follows:—For the amendment 372—against it 20.

Upon the motion of Mr. Peel, the house adjourned to Friday.

## CHAPTER IV.

The Warehousing Bill.—Sheriff of Dublin.—Occasional Freeholders Bill.

Game Laws.—Irish Militia Reduction Bill.—Spitalfields Trade. —
Scotch Linen Acts.—Foreign Negotiations.—Continuance of the Irish
Insurrection Bill.—Marriage Act.—Customs Duties Act.—West Indian Slavery. — Registry of Beer Licences Bill.—Criminal Laws.—
Repeal of a standing Order.—Duties on East and West India Sugars.

East India Company Mutiny and Desertion Bill.—Commutation of Tithes Bill.—Reciprocity of Duties Bill.—Irish Joint Tenantcy Bill.—Sundry Private Bills, Petitions, &c.

LTOUSE of Lords, May 1.— Earl Stanhope presented a petition from C. A. Thomson, of Chiswick, which stated that the petitioner had, in 1811 and 1812, purchased two estates at Northaw and Pontry las, for which he had paid, in part, upwards of 80,000/., and granted a mortgage for 60,000l. for the remainder of the purchasemoney. Being unable to pay off the mortgage in 1821, he offered the estates for sale, but was unable to get for them (in consequence of the altered value of the currency) so much as would pay off the mortgage of 60,000l., and the mortgagor was in consequence now applying to be put in possession of the two estates. The petitioner, therefore, prayed their lordships would be pleased to suspend the operation of the law by which the

mortgagor was enabled to take from him his estates, and to pass a law for the equitable adjustment of all contracts.

His lordship, in moving that the petition do lie on the table, expressed his approbation of the principle of an adjustment of contracts, and intimated his intention of making a motion on the subject at an early period. The petition was read at length, and ordered to lie on the table.

The weights and measures bill was read a second time. The profane swearing bill was read a third time, and passed. The other bills on the table were forwarded one stage.—Adjourned.

House of Lords, May 2. — The royal assent was given by commission to the grants of aids; the military and naval pensions,

the

the innkeepers' allowances, the revenue consolidation, and several private bills. The lords commissioners were the Lord Chancellor, the Earl of Shaftesbury, and Lord Redesdale.

The Duke of Northumberland presented a petition from New-castle-upon-Tyne, praying the repeal of the duties on coal carried coastways.

The Earl of Shaftesbury presented a petition from Blackburn, complaining of agricultural distress.

A person from the East India Company presented an account of salaries and pensions granted by the company.

The several bills on the table were forwarded one stage. On the third reading of the warehousing bill,

The Earl of Harewood rose, and said, that though it was not his intention to oppose the present bill, yet at a time when, on the liberal principles of trade, they were relaxing every restriction on foreigners, it might be expected that every facility would be given to our own manufacturers. He now announced to the house, that it was the intention of the woollen-manufacturers in a short time to request their lordships' attention to the situation in which they were placed by the duties on foreign wool. It was ridiculous to suppose that our own growth of wool was encouraged by that measure, whilst our manufacturers were seriously injured by its operation; and the consideration became still more important from the present state of Spain. these few hours, information had arrived from that country of a new duty of 5d. per pound having been laid on all wool exported. -- The

bill was then read the third time, and passed.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, May 2.— The Speaker, on his return from the House of Lords, whither he was summoned to hear the commission read, notified the bills that had received the royal assent.

On the motion of *Mr. Jones*, the second reading of the Welsh judicature bill was ordered to be postponed till Monday.

Petitions were presented for the Southwark court of requests bill, (which bill was read a second time)—against the repeal of the Irish union cotton duties—for a duty upon foreign tallow—against the coal duties—upon the subject of agricultural distress—from the coroners of the county of York, praying for an increase of their salary (ten guineas per annum).

The house then went into a committee upon the motion of Sir F. Burdett, for the investigation of the conduct of the sheriff of Dublin.

Sir R. Heron took the chair, and several witnesses were examined. The chairman afterwards brought up the minutes of the proceeding, which were ordered to be printed.

Mr. Goulburn was quite anxious to introduce the question of the Irish insurrection act as soon as possible; but he was entirely at the mercy of hon. gentlemen on the other side, who had notices of motions fixed for every day for a considerable time to come. If they would give way, he should be happy to fix an early day.

Mr. Hume said, a motion of his stood for the 6th, which he should be very willing to give up, on condition that his Majesty's ministers would agree to the appointment of the committee for which he should

move.

move. In that case, he would not say a word. The motion was for a committee of inquiry into the state of Newfoundland. He hoped ministers would agree to it, and he would be very ready to spare the time of the house by refraining from any observations.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, that he could not accept the hou. member's courtesy on those conditions; but the fact was, the hon member's motion did not stand first on the day in question. The first was that of the noble lord, the member for Lanark, who might, he trusted, be induced to give way.

Mr. Kennedy, in the absence of his noble friend, thought he might say his noble friend would not be willing to give it up, as this was the third session in which he had attempted to bring it forward.

Mr. Goulburn then said, he would fix Tuesday next for the motion, in hope that some honourable member might be induced to give way.

The occasional freeholders' bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed on the 12th instant.

On the report being brought up of the Irish county treasurers' bill,

Sir G. Hill opposed the clause respecting the appointment of collectors.

Sir J. Newport and Mr. S. Rice defended the clause.

The house then divided; when there appeared, for the clause 14—against it 27.

The bill, as amended, was ordered to be read a third time on Monday next.

Mr. J. Williams obtained leave to bring in a bill for rendering the affirmation of Quakers admissible in criminal cases. The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the house adjourned.

House of Lords, May 5.— Mr. Stuart Wortley, Lord Althorp, and other members of the House of Commons, brought up several private bills, which were read a first time.

A person from the office of the chief secretary of Ireland presented an account of all monies issued by the lord lieutenant to public commissioners in Ireland for public works, between the 1st January 1822 and 1st January 1823.

Petitions were presented against the insolvent debtors' act — the weights and measures bill—for a mitigation of slavery — upon the subject of agricultural distress.

On the motion of Earl Grey, the name of Lord Rosslyn was added to the committee of appeals.

Earl Grey gave notice of his intention, on Wednesday next, to move for certain additional papers relative to the late negotiations.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, May 5.-Petitions were presented for a prohibition against the importation of. foreign tallow—against the slavetrade—against the duties on East India sugar—from the Roman Catholics of Tuam, being compelled to embellish the cathedral church -for the repeal of the leather tax and coal duties-for altering the mode of election at Edinburgh. (the petition stated that Edinburgh contained 100,000 inhabitants, that only thirty-three had the right of voting, and this thirty-three were reduced really to fourteen, for nineteen held public offices). some conversation upon the state of representation in Ediaburah and Scotland generally, and upon the Irish

Irish composition tithe bill, the house then went into committee, to resume its inquiry into the conduct of the sheriff of Dublin, Sir Robert Heron in the chair. Several witnesses were examined, after which the house resumed, and the other orders of the day were disposed of.—Adjourned.

House of Lords, May 6.—Petitions were presented against the general gaols bill—against slavery.

Mr. Lambton, Mr. S. Whitbread, and other members of the House of Commons, brought up several private bills, which were read the first time.

- A person from the Treasury presented superannuation returns.

Rart Grey postponed his motion until Monday for additional papers relating to the Spanish question.

Lord Cawdor spoke a few words upon the present mode of administering justice in Wales.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, May 6.— Mr. Poyntz moved that the Portsea fishery (private) bill should be read a third time.

Mr. Bernal moved, that the bill be read a third time this day six months.

Sir I. Coffin thought the bill went too far.

The Attorney-General opposed the bill.

Mr.W. Smith was also against it.
After a few words from Mr.
Hurst, and Sir W. de Crespigny, in
favour of the bill, and against it
from Mr. Sykes and Mr. Huskieson
(the latter of whom suggested the
propriety of withdrawing the private bill, and introducing a public
bill to correct the evil complained
of), the bouse divided—For the bill
39—against it 97.

· Petitions were presented against

abuses existing in the corporation of Limerick.

Mr. S. Rice moved the second reading of a private bill for the better regulation of the corporation of Limerick, which was supported by Mr. Wodehouse, and opposed by Mr. O'Grady. The bill was read a second time, and referred to a committee.

. The house then prosecuted the enquiry relating to the Sheriff of Dublin, Sir R. Heron in the chair. After which the house resumed, the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again to-morrow.

Mr. Scarlett obtained leave to bring in a bill to extend the jurisdiction of the county court of Lancaster.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the house adjourned.

House of Lords, May 7.—Sir J. Newport, accompanied by other members of the House of Commons, brought up the Irish county treasurers, and apprentices bills, which were read the first time.

On the motion of the Marquis of Lansdown, the Irish charitable loan society's bill was read the second time.

The Marquis of Lansdown presented a petition from Salisbury, praying the gradual abolition of alayery.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, May 7.—
Petitions were presented against the obligation to stamp Scotch linens—from Kincardine, praying for repeal of enactments respecting their trade—against the coal duty—for the equalization of the sugar duties—for an open trade in beer—against the importation of foreign tallow—forty-one against slavery—against the grand jury presentment bill.

General

General Gascoyne postponed his motion relating to Irish half pay till the 23rd.

Lord Lowther postponed his motion.

Mr. F. Buxton postponed his motion on the slave-trade till Thursday the 15th of May, on which day he would proceed with it, and on no account consent to postpone it beyond.

Lord Nugent postponed his motion respecting British Catholics, till Tuesday, May 28, and made a similar declaration against further

postponement.

Mr. Brougham presented a petition from a writer of eminent talents, respecting the game laws, which contained statements, as he thought, deserving the gravest consideration of the house. lt was signed by Wm. Cobbett, and it prayed that as there was a motion for bringing in a bill for the alteration of the game laws, the house would be graciously pleased to pause before passing an act which, as the petitioner had been informed, was likely to go to legalize the sale of game by lords of manors, and other privileged persons to be designated in the act. It prayed that the house would weigh well and consider the state of the laws, and the severe hardships which were inflicted on the community at present by their operation, which were greater than ever was known in any other country, or at any other period in this country; and that the house might the better judge, the petitioner offered to their consideration the following most alarming facts. The calendar for the ensuing quarter sessions in the county of Berks, contained the names of seventyseven persons now in Bridewell.

Of these twenty-two were for poaching; and of these twenty-two there had been nine committed by clergymen acting as magistrates in that county. The petition stated farther, that in general poaching was punished with greater severity than offences punishable with death. In one session, an utterer of false silver coin had been punished with twelve months' imprisonment, housebreaker with twenty-four imprisonment, and months' poacher with twenty-four months' imprisonment and hard The petition went on to state, that of twenty-two persons convicted in the county of Hants, sixteen were for poaching and offences against the game laws, and the only persuffered death from who among this number were two young men who had resisted game-keepers. The petitioner therefore prayed the house to consider well before they passed the bill into a law. which was to give a property in wild animals to the lords of manors and others, which could only be done by oppressions great in suffering and humiliation to the people at large, and by compelling the country to submit to grievances for the protection of this new property. which, in regard to the power of those who made the laws, and the abjectness of those who were called on to obey them, would be without any parallel in any country west of Constantinople. These were the remarks and statements of a man of sufficient powers of observation and understanding to make them worthy of attention.

Lord Palmerston said that the two young men in question were executed, not for poaching, but for murder. One of them had killed a gamekeeper, who was in the lawful exercise of his duty—the other had levelled his piece at another game-keeper, who received the contents in his body, but from proper treatment recovered. He was able to speak with certainty upon the characters of the young men, as they were servants of his, and he must say a more cruel and deliberate outrage had never been committed.

Mr. Brougham said that he need not, as he did not, deny the statement of the noble lord; and yet it would rather go to support the reasoning of Mr. Cobhett. It was not even necessary for him to palliate the offences of the two young men; for the question was, how came they to kill the gamekeepers? and then the answer might be, in consequence of the state of the law. That was the very argument he had used before the court on the trial of twenty-one persons the other day, charged with murder on the high seas; and it prevailed, too, with the jury; for the men were killed in consequence of that most abominable law which enabled revenue cruisers to fire shotted guns upon the ships of any nation within two leagues of the British coast.

Mr. J. Benett admitted that the two young men had suffered death very properly in Hampshire. Still he thought that the state of the law demanded reformation. Most of the offences of the country might be considered as results from the severity of the game laws. Offenders were gradually trained from poaching to shoplifting, and then to housebreaking, and occasionally murder.

Sir T. Baring corroborated the statements in Mr. Cobbett's petition. Half the offenders in Hampshire were committed for poaching.

-The petition was ordered to be printed.

Mr. Abercromby postponed his motion relative to Mr. Borthwick, until the 3rd of June next.

Mr. G. Beanet moved for the returns of all land granted, and the annual expense of the colonies of New South Wales, during the last seven years; this was, he intimated, preparatory to his moving for leave to bring in a bill for the better administration of justice in those colonies.—Ordered.

The order of the day was then read for proceeding with the inquiry into the conduct of the Sheriff of Dublin.

The house resolved itself into a committee, Sir R. Heron being in the chair.

Fresh witnesses were examined, after which the House resumed, and Chairman reported progress and obtained leave to sit again.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, May 8.— Mr. Holme Sumner gave notice, on the part of his hon. friend the member for Galway, of a motion next week to bring in a bill against the practice of bull-baiting.

Petitions were presented against the coal duties—four for a compensation of tithes, offering twenty-five years purchase—for a law for the recovery of small debts—eleven against slavery—from Richard Carlile for mitigation of punishment—for equalizing duties on sugar—for extending the bread act to Liverpool.

Mr. Abercromby moved, in the absence of an honourable friend, for a committee to inspect the journals of the House of Lords, and to enquire into the best means of facilitating the administration of justice as it was connected with the hearing of appeals, writs of error, and

other

other judicial preceedings in that house.

The committee was thereupon appointed.

The House went on with its enquiry relative to the Sheriff of Dublin.

After the house had resumed, and the chairman reported progress, the other orders of the day were disposed of.—Adjourned.

House of Lords, May 9.—Petitions were presented against the general gaols' bill—against slavery—against the Roman Catholic claims—for a repeal of the silk acts of London and Westminster.

Mr. Brogden, accompanied by several other members of the House of Commons, brought up some private bills, and the warehousing bill, with the amendments agreed to.

The Earl of Liverpool moved the third reading of the Irish militia reduction bill.

The Earl of Gosford opposed the third reading, on the ground that it was an act of injustice, and a breach of faith, to the subaltern officers.

The Earl of Liverpool defended the bill, and maintained that the former acts of parliament left it completely open to Parliament to make the reductions or not: and in point of fact, if the militia were to be called into active service, a very large proportion of those officers would be found inefficient, and must be reduced: the only question therefore was, whether that inefficient force should be continued, and a needless expense incurred.

The Earl of Caledon opposed the bill.

After some further discussion,

The Marquis of Lansdown proposed that the third reading of the

bill should be postponed to this day week, which was agreed to.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, May 9.—
Petitions were presented against slavery from seven places—for the equalization of the sugar duties—from the Catholics of Ireland, for emancipation.

Mr. T. Wilson presented a petition from the silk-weavers of London, Westminster, and Middlesex. praying for the repeal of certain statutes called the Spitalfields Acts. The acts in question were those of the 18th, 32d, and 51st of George III., and the restrictions which they imposed upon the conduct of the silk-trade were of the most absurd description. In the first place the wages of the manufacturer were fixed at the discretion of the magistrate. In the next place, the interference extended to the quality of the articles manufactured; silks were to be made only of a given width; and even the number of threads to an inch was fixed by The effect of act of parliament. these absurd and mischievous regulations was, that the whole fancy trade, the imitation of French articles, was carried away from Spitalfields to Manchester and other The bon. silk towns in the north. gentleman sat down by reminding the house of the growing importance of the silk-trade to the coun-Within the last fifty years, try. the importation of raw material had risen from 100,000l. to upwards of 2,000,000l. a-year: and if the present restrictions were removed, a still larger increase might be confidently anticipated.

Mr.Ricardo thought it must surprise both the house and the country to see such statutes existing in the year 1823. The provisions of

the

the acts in question were in the teeth of every sound principle of trade.

Mr. Wallace hoped that the acts would be repealed, for he thought them a disgrace to the statute-book.

Mr. Huskisson fully agreed in the propriety of repealing the acts. He could only account for the existence of such statutes by their having been passed at a time when the silk-trade was almost confined to Spitalfields. Since the manufacture, however, had been carried into other parts of the country, either the provisions of those acts must be got rid of, or Spitalfields would be deserted. Some prejudice, and, indeed, a good deal, did still exist among the workmen; but the house really ought to act for them without reference to those prejudices. It was his intention, at the earliest possible day, to submit a motion to the house for the repeal of the acts in question.

Lord Milton rejoiced in any prospect of getting rid of the obnoxious statutes; and observed upon the absurdity of raising a duty upon raw silk imported. Under the present system, a duty was levied upon raw silk imported, and, on the other hand, a bounty was given upon the exportation of manufactured silks. Now, great difficulty was found in apportioning the bounty, particularly upon goods composed of silk mixed with other material. Would it not be quite as wise, and more generally convement, to get rid of the duty on one hand, and the bounty on the other?

Mr. Buxton, Alderman Thompson, Alderman C. Smith, Mr. W. Wil-Kams, and other gentlemen, spoke generally in favour of the repeal.

Mr. Huskisson presented a pe-

tition from the churchwardens of Liverpool against the poor laws.

Lord Cranborne postponed the second reading of the sale of game bill till this day fortnight.

Mr. Hume moved for returns of various papers relative to Cape Breton, upon the production of which he promised to bring the state of that colony before the house.—Ordered.

The house then resolved itself into a committee upon the Scotch linen acts.

Mr. Huskisson rose to propose an alteration in the law, which had long been found necessary. regulations of the trade were chiefly contained in an act which was full of absurd restraints. There were no less than 40 sections, all laid out in details as to what bulk of thread should be used, the length and breadth of the cloths to be manufactured; table-linen was to be made square; and, that which appeared to him to be the most absurd of all, the width in each case specified was to contain so many threads and " no more." He could understand a regulation for preventing cloths from being made too narrow, though the reason of that would be difficult enough to comprehend; but why it should be necessary to a good cloth to be of one width and no wider, no one could possibly say. A great many other statutes upon the same subject had arisen from the confusion and inconvenience induced by the first. He proposed to repeal them altogether. He intended to do away with the stamp, which, instead of answering the purpose of a standard, had been converted in many instances into an instrument of fraud At the same time he and deceit. knew that considerable prejudices existed existed in favour of the old practice. He would leave the option of using the stamp, or doing without it; with the condition, however, that all the penalties should be repealed against not using it. could scarcely undertake to extend the same measure to the linens of It was a favourite manu-Ireland. facture in that country, fostered with much care, and perhaps a change of this nature would be too sensibly felt. At any rate, he would not venture now, though be hoped soon to see the time when the manufacturers of Ireland, discovering their true interest, would call for a similar alteration themselves. moved for leave to bring in a bill to alter and amend the 13th Geo. I. and the several acts relating to the manufacture of linens in Scotland.

Leave was given to bring in the Bill.

The house having resumed,

Mr. Brougham gave notice, on behalf of his hon. friend the member for Essex, that he should on the 10th of June next call the attention of the house to the manner in which juries were returned for the various counties of England, and should propose a measure, the object of which would be to meet the difficulty occasioned by three circuits instead of two, and the consequent want of jurors. His hon. friend intended to propose that leaseholders and copyholders should be summoned as jurors under certain regulations.

Mr. Hume took this opportunity of asking the right honourable gentleman (Mr. Canning), whether it was his intention to adopt any measures relative to the appointment of the consuls of Great Britain. He was induced to mention this at the present moment, from a representation which had been

made to him respecting the consul-That gentleman's in the Brazils. authority had been delegated to him by the Portuguese government when it was an entire power; the government of the country in which he resided had since become independent, and the honourable member was informed that the original appointment would not now be held to be legal. This would place the consul in an awkward situation, if parties in the Brazils should be disposed so to treat him. Upon this, us well as upon the general ground, he was desirous to know the right honourable gentleman's intentions in this respect.

Mr. Canning said, as to the first part of the honourable gentleman's question, he could only reply that the subject had been before the government long before he came into office. He knew that it had received the most anxious attention during the present session, but he was not prepared to give any particular information upon it. to the Brazils, he trusted the hon. gentleman would see that in the present delicate situation of this country, as to its relations with two parts of a monarchy which was practically divided, it would be well not to press bis enquiry any The treaty which had been made with that monarchy when it was a whole one, was still in operation, and the interests of the separate parts were objects of solicitude to England. He therefore put it to the hon, gentleman whether he would press for any farther opinion from him at this time.

Mr. Hume nodded assent.

Mr. Brougham wished to know from the right honourable gentleman, whether there was any truth in a report which had very generally got abroad, that the Emperor of Russia had collected a very large army on the Vistula.

Mr. Conning believed that an army had been collected there, but whether it was, or was not, a very

large one, he could not say.

Mr. Brougham said, that although there was nothing very consolatory in the right honourable gentleman's reply, he would venture to put another question to him. The right honourable gentleman had on a former occasion stated, that England did not withhold her consent from the evacuation of Italy by the Austrian troops. Now he wished to know from him, whether those troops had left Italy, or whether they were not still lingering on the Po, and ready to fall back again upon that country.

Mr. Canning replied, that he believed all the troops which were to have quitted Italy had already evacuated the Piedmontese and Neapolitan states; whether they had all got out of the Milanese or not,

he did not know.

Mr. Bernal wished to procure some information with respect to the recent seizure of a large quantity of He understood that a cerrums. tain proportion of saccharine matter had been introduced into the liquor, the effect of which was to produce a very high colour. The customhouse officers had reported, that owing to the presence of this matter, they were unable to try the etrength of the liquor; and upon this report the whole of it had been seized, under an act of the late He complained of the great hardship of the case, and the punishment which was thus inflicted upon parties who had no intention of defrauding the revenue.

1823.

Mr. Herries said, that no application had been made to the treasury on this subject; it was therefore impossible to afford any redress until the case should be properly communicated.

The Irish Union duties bill was then read a third time, and passed.

Upon the motion of Sir J. Newport, the order of the day for proceeding with the inquiry into the conduct of the Sheriff of Dublin was read.

The house then resolved itself into a committee of the whole house, Sir R. Heron in the chair, in which several witnesses were examined, after which the house resumed, and the chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Wednesday next.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the

house adjourned.

House of Lords, May 12.—The royal assent was given by commission to the warehousing, apprentices, and Edinburgh and Glasgow Union Canal bills. The commissioners were the Lord Chancellor, the Earl of Shaftesbury, and Viscount Melville.

Mr. Brogden, accompanied by other members of the House of Commons, brought up the quorum magistrates, the union duties, and several private bills.

Petitions were presented against the insolvent debtors' act, and

against slavery.

The Irish charitable loans society's bill went through a committee.

The Marquis of Lansdown proposed a clause giving jurisdiction to justices in petty sessions, which was agreed to.

The Earl of Liverpool laid on the table certain papers.

N On

On the clerk reading the order

of the day,

Earl Grey rose, and entering at great length into the bistory of the negotiations, in which he stated that he had never known an instance in which the interests of his country had been so betrayed, and its honour so tarnished, and charging ministers with extreme credulity and inability in those negotiations, concluded by moving a vote of censure.

This was opposed by the Earl of Liverpool, and supported by Lord Holland, Lord Ellenborough, and Lord Calthorp, after which it was negatived without a division.—House adjourned.

House of Commons, May 12.— The Speaker attended the House of Lords, to witness the royal assent given to several bills by commission, for which see Lords.

Petitions were presented from Minehead and Alton against the coal-duties.

Mr Jerroise presented the petition of the owners and occupiers of land in Southampton, complaining of agricultural distress, and praying, among other remedies suggested therein, for a reform in parliament, a modification of church property, and an appropriation of crown lands.

Sir T. Baring supported the petition, and testified to the great respectability of the meeting, and the orderly manner of the proceedings. He complained of the arbitrary conduct of the high sheriff in opposing his single opinion to that of 500 respectable men of the county who had signed the first requisition, and refusing to call the meeting. He observed that the sheriff must know little of the people of this country, if he thought

to stifle the voice of their just complaints, whether he acted in concert with his superiors or not, by endeavouring to prevent them from approaching that house. He concurred with the petitioners in believing that the greater part of their distress arose from the corruptions of that house, and he felt certain that reform was, sooner or later, inevitable.

Mr. Curwen said, that the country gentlemen ought not to relax in their efforts to obtain more perfect relief, because provisions were now at an improved price. He thought that they were particularly bound to try if some measure were not attainable to bring the funds to bear a fair proportion of the burdens of the poor-rates.

Mr. Ricardo attributed all the evils of a fluctuating price of grain to the corn laws, and urged a speedy revision of the whole system. He thought the proposition for making the funds liable to the poor-rates exceedingly unjust, because all loans were contracted with an understanding that the property lent should not be subject to any tax whatever.

Mr. G. Bennet said, they were in the habit of hearing charges of injustice to the public creditor, while the injustice actually practised on the public debtor, in making his property answerable for the whole nominal amount in a currency of increased value, was never once mentioned.

Mr. Monck attributed all the evils suffered by the agricultarists to the excessive taxation. While that should remain at its present amount, they could look for nothing but an alternation of agricultural and manufacturing distress. Some alteration of the poor-

rates

rates was indispensably necessary, to prevent them from swallowing up the landed interest.

Mr. Phillips saw no hope of effectual relief, but from reduced taxation.

Mr. S. Whitmore approved of a revision of the corn laws.

Sir T. Lethbridge enforced the necessity of making all property equally liable to the burdens of the poor-laws.

Mr. F. Palmer said a few words in reprehension of the conduct of

the high sheriff.

Lord Palmerston said, that the high sheriff had acted upon his own opinion and responsibility. The name of the honourable baronet opposite was not in the requisition; the respectability of that signature might have made a difference in the decision of the sheriff.

Sir T. Baring said, though his name was not signed to the requisition, there were 500 names of respectable persons of the county attached, and the sheriff could not be justified in refusing to call the meeting.—The petition was ordered to be printed.

Mr. Maberly presented a petition from certain persons using carriages for conveyance of goods and materials near the metropolis, against certain parts of the act of last session, particularly with reference to the weighing-machine, praying to be heard before the committee, by counsel or agents, and to be at liberty to produce evidence.—Referred to the committee on the bill to amend the act.

Mr. A. Campbell presented a petition from owners, planters, and merchants, residing in London, interested in the West India Colonies. The petition set forth the large property which the petitioners

had in the negro population, and the necessity of their being enabled to preserve order and discipline among them, seeing that, compared with the whites, they bear the proportion in number of ten to one. The petitioners admit, that some alterations might be desirable in the judicial tribunals for the better protection of the negroes, but they deprecated all those attempts now making to disturb the quiet of the colonies by the means put in practice towards the adoption of slavery, which could only terminate, as the petitioners believe, in the extirpation of the European by the negro population.—The petition was then ordered to lie on the table, and to be printed.

Sir J. Graham presented a petition from Carlisle, praying for the

abolition of slavery.

Sir I. Coffin saw many petitions presented, some praying for the total, others for the gradual abolition of slavery; but he heard no measure suggested by which the owners of slaves were to be compensated for their losses, or the 800,000 black people fed after they should be emancipated. A proposition had been made in Kent to pillage the funded property; and in Norfolk to plunder the landed property: he thought the present petition proposed a no more justifiable attack upon the West India proprietors.

Mr. Curwen supported the petition,

Mr. Mansfield said, in reply to the observations of the gallant admiral, that in a certain petition from Leicestershire, which he had formerly presented, the persons signing it expressed their willingness to submit to any burdens which it might be necessary to impose to make up for the loss to

the proprietors of slaves.

Mr. Baring did not propose to enter into a discussion, for which he felt this was not the proper time, but he rose to warn the house against suffering the question to be thus treated. If it were left in its present state, the frequent petitions and the occasional remarks of members would be going out to the West Indies, and might produce serious consequences among the black population there. alarming insurrection which had broken out some years ago in Barbadoes, was caused by some vague rumour, which had been carried thither by a packet, that Mr. Wilberforce was about to procure their emancipation. Many of the blacks had lost their lives upon that occasion, and its lamentable result ought to induce the house to decide upon this important question at once.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer concurred with the hon, gentleman. He regretted the delay which had already intervened: the motion now stood for Thursday, upon which day there seemed to be no doubt that it would be brought on.

Mr. Canning laid on the table some papers relating to the slave-

trade.

Petitions were presented alsoone from London, to alter the law of lien upon goods sent on foreign ventures, and the same from Liverpool—for a duty on Russian tallow—from the brewers against the heer bill.

Lord Folkestone postponed from Wednesday next, until the 5th of June, his motion for a select committee on the expediency and necessity of effecting an equitable adjustment of contracts.

Colonel Barry intimated his intention of moving for the transmission of some additional papers from Dublin.

Mr. Sergeant Onslow, at the suggestion of Mr. Goulburn, post-poned the second reading of the usury laws' repeal bill until this day fortnight.

Mr. Goulburn moved "that leave be given to continue the Irish insurrection bill for a limited

time."

On the question being put,

Lord Althorp opposed the motion, and moved as an amendment "That it is the opinion of this bouse, that the coercive measures which have been repeatedly adopted since the union, have failed to secure tranquillity in Ireland, or to better the moral condition of the people; and that no solid improvement can be expected from a continuance of the system of compromise acted upon in the government of that country, strengthened as it has been by such temporary expedients; but that it is absolutely necessary to take into serious consideration the whole system of the laws and of their administration, with a view to such reform as shall secure the permanent peace of the country, and the equal constitutional rights of the people." (the noble lord continued) this amendment should be carried, he would then move, "That the house, looking to the present state of Ireland, felt it necessary to arm the government with powers sufficient to suppress the outrages which were so alarming to the country."

Mr. John Smith rose to second the amendment, for he wished to see, with respect to Ireland, coercive measures done away with.

Mr.

Mr. Robertson, Lord A. Hamilton, Sir John Newport, Lord Milton, and Mr. Spring Rice, supported the amendment; Mr. Plunkett, Lord Innismore, and other members supported the original motion. After which the house divided, for the motion 162—against it 82.—Adjourned.

House of Lords, May 13.—The quorum magistrates and union duues bill were read the second time; the other bills on the table were

forwarded one stage.

The Archbishop of Canterbury presented the report of the committee appointed to consider the state of the law respecting marriage, which was read. The report stated, that the committee having considered the dissatisfaction which had been expressed by many clergymen, on the subject of the various new forms rendered necessary by the act of last session, had deemed it expedient to recur to the forms previously in use; they therefore recommended the discontinuance of all such forms as were vexatious and nugatory, more particularly those which regarded the oaths required to be taken by parties previously to the solemnization of marriage. On the general subject, the committee recommended a better arrangement of the clauses of the act of 26th Geo. II. With respect to bans, they did not consider any alteration necessary, except that permission should be given to have them published in chapels. With respect to licences, they recommend that they should be suffered to remain on their present footing. Both bans and licences, if not acted upon within three months, should be renewed. committee declare the great difficulty they have had in reconciling the parental rights with a due re-

gard to the rights of minors; and understanding that the opinion of the house was fully expressed against the renewal of that clause of the old law, by which marriages of minors had without consent of parents and guardians, were declared null and void; they suggest therefore, that there should be a provision, by which such marriages may be voided, if a suit be commenced within twelve months after solemnization. The Court of Chancery to have jurisdiction in the like manner as it has in cases of wards of that court. The committee had extended their consideration to the marriages of Roman Catholics and other dissenters, but were of opinion that it would not be desirable to include them in the present bill. After the report had been read,

Lord Ellenborough rose. It was not his intention, he said, to provoke any discussion of the measure at present, but he wished to state, as might be imagined, that he did not concur in the principle that marriages of minors without consent of parents and guardians should be void. He would only now beg to call their lordships' attention to the necessary consequences if that principle were introduced into the marriage-law. In the first place, it appeared to him to be entirely nugatory, for a minor might form a valid marriage by means of bans (it was only to marriages by licences that the principle was to extend), and therefore need not have recourse to the marriage by licence. But though it was nugatory as to the end proposed, it did seem to him to hold out a means by which profligate young men might obtain possession of the persons of women by means of a fictitious marriage. It contained a penalty applying only to the weaker party,

who, on every principle, was entitled to protection. For these and other reasons, with which he would not trouble their lordships then, but which he would state at length when the bill came under discussion, he entirely dissented from the provision recommended the committee; and he gave notice to the noble and learned lord (Lord Stowell) and the right rev. prelate, whom he considered as the authors of that clause, that be should oppose it in every way possible consistent with the forms of parliament.

The Archbishop of Canterbury then brought in the bill, founded on the report of the committee, which was read the first time. His grace observed, that the second reading might be fixed for some convenient day after the

holidays.

The Earl of Shaftesbury presented a petition from Samuel Thornton, Governor of the Russia Company, setting forth that it had been the custom for two centuries to solemnize the marriages of British subjects in Russia, but that doubts had recently been raised as to their validity; he therefore prayed the house to pass an act to declare them valid.

Lord Stowell considered it unnecessary to comply with the prayer of the petition, as the marriages referred to had always been considered valid marriages in our courts of law.

Petition ordered to lie on the table.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, May 13.— The Speaker took the chair at four o'clock, but there were not sufficient members present to make a house.—Adjourned.

House of Lords, May 14.—Sir T. Lethbridge, Mr. Bung, and other members of the House of Commons, brought up the Bermondsey gaslight, and various other private bills, which were read a first time.

Petitions were presented, three against slavery — and from the treasurers of counties in Ireland for an increase of salary.

The quorum magistrates and union duties bills went through committees, and were reported without amendments.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, May 14.— The house resolved itself into a committee on the Allardyce divorce bill. Counsel were heard, and witnesses examined in support of the bill.

The house resumed, and the bill was ordered to be read a third time

on Friday next.

Sir J. Newport gave notice, that at the commencement of the next session, he would move for the appointment of a select committee to examine into the state of the established clergy in Ireland, the residence of the clergy, and the disposal of the first fruits fund.

On the motion of Mr. H. G. Bennet, a select committee was appointed to inquire into the present state of the Penitentiary at Mill-

bank.

Sir J. Yorke, Mr. Courtenay, and Mr. Holford, entered into an explanation respecting a letter sent to Mr. Courtenay, and supposed to have been lost, regarding the appearance of the scurvy among the prisoners.

Mr. Hume gave notice, that his hon. friend (Mr. Maberly) would on the 28th instant move for a committee on the malt and beer duty, with a view to transferring the duty on beer to malt.

Petitions were presented, pineteen against slavery—to equalize the duties on sugar—against the re-

peal

peal of the wool tax—against the eoal duties—against the malt duties—for an alteration in the law of lien upon consignments from England to foreign countries—against altering the law for stamping Scotch linens—from Mr. M'Adam for remuneration—against the London bridge bill.

Sir H. Parnell gave notice of his intention to move on Friday for a secret committee to inquire into the causes of the prevailing disturbances in Ireland.

The house then went into a committee upon the inquiry into the conduct of the Sheriff of Dublin, when several witnesses were examined; after which, on the motion of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the house resumed, and the chairman having reported progress, obtained leave to sit again on Wednesday next.

On the motion of Mr. Brownlow, there was ordered to be laid before the house, a return of the grand jury panels for the county of the city of Dublin for the years 1798 and 1809.

Mr. Hume rose to call the attention of the house to the misgoverned state of Newfoundland, and moved "That a select committee be appointed to take into consideration the state of the fisheries, the revenue, the laws, and the administration of justice in the island of Newfoundland, and to report the evidence taken, and their opinion, to the house." Which was supported by Mr. M. A. Taylor, Mr. Bright, and Mr. Butterworth, and opposed by Mr. Wilmot and Captain Gordon:—for the motion 27, against it 43.

Mr. Hume postponed his motion on the subject of naval promotions: but was not able at present to fix the day on which he would bring it on.

On the motion of the Chuncellor of the Exchequer, the house resolved itself into a committee on the customs' duties act.

The Chuncellor of the Exchequer said, the resolutions he intended to propose were in the nature of regulations, with a view to the facilitating and expediting business at the custom-house; but in the cases where any slight alteration of the duties were intended, he had prepared a schedule which would state, not only the duty intended to be imposed, but that which the articles paid at present, which could be printed, and would afford hon. members every information in time for the discussion of the measure.

Mr. Hume wished to know if there was any increase of duty on any articles?

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, he believed there was an increase on buck-wheat, which often came into competition with barley in the breweries, and it was therefore thought proper to assimilate the rates of the two.

Mr. H. G. Bennet wished that objects of natural history should be exempted from duties, and complained of the pillage which took place at the custom-house in plants and seeds.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer agreed that the articles alluded to by the honourable gentleman, being intended for the advancement of science, ought to be at a mere nominal duty. He acknowledged that he had himself received packages which had been pillaged, but could never find out how it happened. There were persons acting

as agents, who, he proposed, should be placed under the regulation of licences, which he hoped might in some measure remedy the evil.

Mr. Bright thought fifty per cent. too much on the articles not enumerated.

Mr. Maberly had no objection to the regulation, but trusted it was not meant, as in a former case, to have an eye to revenue also.

Mr. Hume wished to know if there was any alteration in the ar-

ticle of sulphur?

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, this article paid a very high duty, 15s. per cwt., except to the makers of oil of vitriol, who were allowed nine-tenths by way of drawback, and of late years the whole duty had been drawn back; but as the revenue had in consequence suffered from frauds, it was proposed to repeal the high duty, and lay a duty of one-tenth the amount, without allowing any drawback.

After some farther desultory conversation, in which Mr. Hume, Mr. Huskisson, Mr. D. Gilbert, and Mr. Bright, took a part,

The house resumed. The report was brought up; the resolutions were ordered to be printed, with a view to their being re-committed.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the house

adjourned.

House of Lords, May 15.— The Earl of Darnley wished to be informed at what period the bill before the other house, for renewing the insurrection act in Ireland, might be expected to come before their lordships.

The Earl of Liverpool said, that from the proceedings which were going on in the other house of parliament, it was obviously impossible for any person to say at what time the bill would be before that house. —Adjourned till to-morrow.

House of Commons, May 15.—Petitions were presented; thirty-five against slavery, two for it—two against the debtors' act—two against duties on coals going coast-ways—nine from Scotland against the repeal of the linen laws.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer gave notice, that on the 30th of May, in a committee of supply, he would move a vote for the new building of the British Museum.

Mr. Huskisson gave notice, that on Friday next he would submit a resolution to put the duties on goods imported in shipping from countries pursuing the same system, on a footing with goods imported in British shipping.

Mr. W. Smith complained, that certain returns, relative to the West India colonies, which had been moved for so long back as the month of July 1821, had not yet been laid before the house. some instances the governors had made apologies for not having forwarded those returns. The returns from Jamaica and Grenada had not been made up to this day; they were not, at least, in the pessession of the members of that house; and, to the best of his belief, they were not in the colonial office. Repeated inquiries had been made at the colonial office, but no satisfactory answer had been received.

Mr. Wilmot said, that he had last night laid on the table of the house the returns alluded to.

Mr. J. Smith rose to move, "that a committee be appointed to inquire into the state of the law relating to goods, wares, and merchandise, intrusted to merchants, agents, or factors, and its influence on property, and to report their observations thereon to the house." As a very important motion was about to be submitted to the house, it was his intention to confine himself to the simple proposition for a committee.

The motion was agreed to, and

the committee appointed.

Sir J. Macintoih said, as he observed that the Irish inquiry was postponed to Wednesday next, he begged it to be understood, that he would not, after that day, wave the priority of his motion on the subject of the criminal law.

Mr. Sykes stated, that he would pursue the same course with respect to a motion of which he had given

notice.

Mr. T. F. Buxton brought forward his motion upon the subject of West Indian slavery: after detailing and answering the arguments of its advocates, he moved,

"That the state of slavery is repugnant to the principles of the British constitution and of the Christian religion, and that it ought to be gradually abolished throughout the British colonies, with as much expedition as may be found consistent with a due regard to the well being of the parties concerned."

Mr. Canning said he felt it his duty to rise at that early part of the evening, to express the sentiments of his colleagues and of himself upon that subject: that the spirit of Christianity required the ultimate abolition of slavery, but that it must be gradual. He therefore moved the three following resolutions by way of amendment:

"That it is expedient to adopt effectual and decisive measures for meliorating the condition of the

slave population of his Majesty's colonies.

"That, through a determined and vigorous, but at the same time judicious and temperate, enforcement of such measures, this house looks forward to a progressive improvement in the character of the slave population, such as may prepare them for a participation in those civil rights and privileges which are enjoyed by other classes of his Majesty's subjects.

"That this house is anxious for the accomplishment of these purposes at the earliest period that may be, consistently with the welfare of the slaves themselves, the wellbeing of the colonies, and a fair and equitable consideration of the

state of property therein."

Which was supported by Mr. Wilberforce and some other members.

Mr. Buston then withdrew his motion, and the amendment was

carried.

Mr. S. Rice moved for leave to bring in a bill to regulate the office of coroners in Ireland.

Mr. R. Martin opposed the motion.

Mr. F. Palmer suggested the propriety of introducing the subject in a fuller house.

The motion was then withdrawn.

The other orders of the day were disposed of, and the house adjourned.

House of Lords, May 16.— Lord Dacre moved for returns of the malt duties from the year 1793.— Ordered. His lordship also presented a petition from the inhabitants of Royston, Herts, praying for the gradual abolition of slavery in the colonies.—Ordered to lie on the table.

Sir Edward Knatchbull, accompanied by several members of the House of Commons, brought up the Maidstone gas light and other private bills.

Sir George Hill brought a message from the Commons, stating, that in the bill for more effectually regulating the office of county treasurer in Ireland, a clause had, by mistake, been introduced into the engrossed copy which had been sent up to their lordships, and which clause had been disagreed to by the Commons, who requested, therefore, that their lordships would be pleased to expunge the clause. After the message had been read, the Lord Chancellor informed the Commons that the house would send an answer by a messenger of its own.

Earl Grosvenor stated, that last year he had made a motion on the subject of sinecures. He now wished for some information respecting offices in the West Indies, which, though not exactly sinecures, were nearly allied to them, as they were executed by deputy; and also offices granted in reversion.

The Earl of Liverpool said, that with respect to the offices alluded to by the noble lord, every thing had been done that could be done at present, till some of the existing interests expired; but any person now appointed to an office in the West Indies was obliged to go there, and execute it in person. respect to the revenue and other departments, they had been subjected to the scrutiny of commissions, some of which were still in the course of their inquiries.

Lord King complained of the manner in which pensions were granted on the four and half per cent. duties.

The Earl of Liverpool said, that no pension had been granted on that fund for a long time past.

Earl Grosvenor then moved for a return of all offices granted in reversion by the crown, since the lst of January 1820. — Ordered. His lordship subsequently moved for a similar return as to pensions.

-Agreed to.

The Marquis of Lunsdown presented a petition from the Chamber of Commerce in Glasgow, against the weights and measures' bill. On moving that the petition do lie on the table, the noble Marquis observed that he was by no means prepared to give any definite opinion on the subject, but it was one of the very highest importance, and the objections of the petitioners were entitled to the gravest consideration.

The Earl of Liverpool agreed with the noble marquis that the subject was of the highest import-He believed there was a standing order of their lordships, that all bills of this nature should. before the first reading, be referred to a select committee. (The standing order was read by the clerk at the table.) His lordship continued, that if the present bill was not within the words of that order, it came clearly within its spirit. should, therefore, propose that the bill should be referred to a committee, and also the petition which the noble lord had presented.

Lord Melville said the subject had been referred to commissioners, and they had reported upon it: those reports were before the committee of the House of Commons who considered the bill. He thought that these reports should be also before their lordships' committee.

After some further conversation.

in which the Earl of Liverpool and the Duke of Somerset took part, the committee was appointed, and the bill and petition referred to it.

On the order of the day being read for the third reading of the Irish militia reduction bill,

Lord Gusford rose, and repeated his former objections to the bill, as a breach of faith and an act of injustice to the men who would thus be set adrift without any compensation. He urged on their lord-ships' attention the great danger there would be in spreading through the country a body of men used to arms, with such motives to be discontented.

The Earl of Liverpool supported the bill. Out of eight hundred men who would be discharged, five hundred and fifty would have pensions, and the others would have openings made for them to act as constables under the new act.

The Earl of Caledon concurred in all that had been said by his noble friend (Lord Gosford). He should therefore oppose the bill.

After a few words from Lord Lorton against the bill, the house divided, when there appeared—content 18—not content 9.— The bill was then read a third time, and passed.

On the motion of the Earl of Shaftesbury, it was ordered that a message be sent to the Commons to request copies of the second and third reports of the committee on weights and measures.

Adjourned till Thursday next.

House of Commons, May 16.—

Mr. Lambton presented a petition from South Shields, praying that no duty might be imposed on their shipping on account of the rebuilding of London Bridge.

Seven petitions were presented praying for the abolition of slavery.

Mr. Hume moved that returns respecting Newfoundland, ordered by the house, should be made forthwith. — Ordered. Also for various accounts connected with the revenue and government expenditure of the Isle of Man.—Ordered.

Mr. S. Rice presented a petition from the Chamber of Commerce at Limerick, praying for a duty on foreign yarn.

Mr. Brougham moved for a return of the places held by Mr. Wilkie, late of the tax-office, distinguishing profits and salaries.—Ordered.

The house resolved into a committee upon the registry bill.

Mr. Huskisson said that he had previously introduced a clause for a more fair and equal admeasurement of the tonnage; but the objections taken to it were so numerous, that he had been induced to withdraw it.

The house having resumed, Lord G. Somerset brought up the report, which was ordered to be taken into further consideration this day fortnight.

The cochineal duties bill was committed, and the report ordered to be received on Friday next.

Mr. Brougham brought in a bill for regulating the licences in the retailing of beer and ale. Previous to its being read a first time, he observed that a bill had been brought in by the honourable member for Reading, the object of which resembled his own, inasmuch as it granted that power to brewers which he wished to be given generally. It was quite unnecessary, therefore, the larger object being

provided for by the bill now before the house, that another should be passed. The bill was then read a first and second time, and ordered to be read a third time on Friday next.

The house went into a committee on the masters and apprentices bill, to which several clauses were added. The report was ordered to be brought up on Friday next.

Lord F. Osborne presented a petition from an individual of the name of John Clarke, of Shipton, in the North Riding of Yorkshire, who, having been committed to prison for want of sureties, remained in confinement from Jan. 1821 to the same month in 1822. During this period he had been kept to hard labour for six hundred days, without receiving any remuneration, and he prayed that the house would afford him relief.

Mr. S. Wortley said, that the produce of the labour of the prisoners was disposed of towards their maintenance. By the seventh section of the twenty-second of George III. cap. 22, the keepers of prisons were authorized to put all persons within their oustody to labour—though not to severe labour—while they were maintained at the expense of the county. Upon this he justified the legality, though he would say nothing of the expediency, of the conduct of magistrates on this occasion.

Lord F. Osborne presented a petition from Martyn Stapylton, Esq. a magistrate of the county of York, complaining of the practice of putting prisoners to labour in the tread-mill before their trials. The petitioner had already made a representation to the quarter sessions of his own county, but that failing of success, he had applied to this

house. The noble lord thought the practice was highly injurious and unjustifiable, because it destroyed the distinction between accusation and crime. Seeing a right honourable gentleman in his place, he hoped he would take some means to prevent the employment of females in the tread-mills.

Mr. James had no doubt of the

illegality of the practice.

Mr. Peel had on a former occasion directed returns to be made of the operation of the tread-mill on the health of the prisoners. Those returns had been laid on the table, and it did not appear that the effects of the labour had been such as would authorize the bringing in any law for exempting females. It was of course subject to frequent inspection, to the superintendence of visiting magistrates and surgeons, which would always. protect the prisoners from being put to such onerous labour as would affect their health.

Mr. Denman thought he was justified in drawing this conclusion from the present conversation—that the opinion of the house was against the keeping prisoners to labour before trial, and he trusted this opinion would go forth. It was, he thought, clearly illegal, as it in fact anticipated the sentence of the law.

Mr. S. Wortley quoted again, and at length, the section abovementioned, in support of the legality

of the practice.

Mr. Denman understood the distinction to be, that prisoners were to labour only so long as would produce a sum adequate to their support.! In the case of the petitioner it had been clearly exceeded.

After a few words from Lord Milton.

Mr

Mr. Peel said, that it was most desirable to render the punishment of the tread-mill efficient by making it a stigma and a disgrace. would, however, be very wrong on this, as well as every other account, that the distinction between commitment for trial and conviction of an offence should be confounded.

The further consideration of the Scotch commissioners' bill was. after some conversation between Lord A. Hamilton, the Lord-Advocate, Mr. Abereromby, and Mr. Hume, postponed to Friday next.

Mr. Hume rose to present a petition from James Butcher, spirit-dealer, residing in Dundee, who, he observed, complained of great injustice from the manner in which the excise laws were administered in Scotland. Hume) had forwarded to the Treasury a representation of the case of this individual, in the hope that his grievances would be redressed. It appeared that a dispute had taken place between the collector of excise in the petitioner's neighbourhood and the petitioner, as to the period at which his licence expired. The collector insisted that it expired in December; the petitioner averred that it remained in force till January. This dispute might easily have been settled before the ordinary excise court, and the petitioner was summoned to attend that court: but when he appeared. he found that the collector had withdrawn the process. titioner, during a period of nine months, applied to the collector, but without effect, for a licence; but at length, in 1822, he was summoned before the Exchequer Court. for two years' arrears. He was obliged, at considerable expense, to

proceed to Edinburgh, and there an offer was made to compromise the business. The system of compromise was very common in Edinburgh, and was a very great evil. Officers of excise cited individuals before the Court of Exchequer, and then offered to compromise the This was generally accharge. cepted; because the Crown paid no costs, and even in case of an acquittal, the expense to the party prosecuted would perhaps be double the amount of what he would be called on to pay under a compromise.

The Lord Advocate said, he knew nothing of this case. respect to the system of compromise, he believed it prevailed in Scotland as it did in England. dividuals resorted to a compromise when they thought it better than to proceed to trial.

Mr. Drummond was glad the subject was brought forward by the honourable gentleman. It was well worthy of the attention of the learned Lord Advocate.

Mr. Canning presented additional papers relative to the slave-trade. Ordered to be printed.

Mr. Canning moved "that the house, at its rising, adjourn to Friday next."-Ordered.

Mr. W. Wynn presented the report of the committee, to which had been referred certain documents drawn up by the commissioners appointed to examine into the state of the courts of justice in lreland, relative to the conduct of the Chief Baron O'Grady, which, after a conversation of considerable length, was ordered to be printed.

The house then went into a committee upon the commutation of tithes bill .- The consideration of the report deferred till after the holidays.

The Irish insurrection bill was read a first time, and ordered to be read a second on Friday.

Mr. Hume postponed his motion upon naval promotions to the 5th

of June.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, May 21.—
Petitions were presented against any alteration in the Scotch linen laws—the duty on coals carried coastwise—against the warehousing bill as it affected woollen goods—against slavery—for a duty on foreign tallow—against the duties on wool—for equalizing the duties on sugar—against the insolvent debtors' act—against the repeal of the Spitalfields act—for an enlarged remuneration to Irish clerks of the peace.

Mr. Hume, alluding to the case of a Mr. Butcher, an excise officer of Dundee, which he had mentioned some days back, moved for a copy of the information of Mr. Ewing a collector, and the subsequent proceedings in the Court of Exchequer in Scotland against Mr. Butcher.

The Lord Advocate had no objection to the production of the papers moved for by the honourable gentleman, as he understood they would contain a sufficient answer to the case which had been stated.

Sir James Macintosh, seeing his right honourable friend the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in his place, wished to put a question to him on a subject of very high importance, and most nearly connected, not only with the honour and dignity of his Majesty's crown, but with the interests of all lawful and practical navigation. It would be recollected, that in the course of the last session of parliament, he had addressed a

similar inquiry to the right bon. gentleman's predecessor, the late noble Secretary of State (the Marquis of Londonderry), with respect to certain wild, monstrous, and extravagant pretensions of the Emperor of Russia, as to pretended vast dominions by sea and land on the north-west coast of America; those dominions embracing on shore several extensive territories now occupied by subjects of his Britannic Majesty, and others which were possessed by citizens and subjects of the United States of America: and by sea, including an extent of ocean stretching from the north-west coasts of America to the north-east coasts of Asia. On the occasion to which he (Sir J. Macintosh) alluded, the noble marquis told the house that he had, by the command of his Majesty, protested on the part of the British government against those principles of dominion which had been recently set up by Russia, and which he justly described as principles that were injurious to the maritime rights of all commercial nations, and especially obnoxious to those of the first commercial nution in the world. Since this period, however, and indeed but a few days since, information had been received in this country from America, that Russia no longer rested upon unwarrantable pretensions. but that Russian ships of war had been actually employed to warn off the ships of all countries. from the whole extent—sea and land-intervening between Nootka Sound and Japan, as part and parcel of the Russian empire. He had been informed that they had driven away American vessels. which were sailing in those latitudes; and the same principle of exclusion

exclusion would extend to any British ships which they might find there, as matter of course; and, doubtless, he presumed, as a preliminary step to that universal dominion by land and sea which the plans and views of the Russian emperor seemed lately to contemplate. In the first place, therefore, he begged to ask the right honourable gentleman—had his Majesty's government received information that such acts of exclusion, as had occurred in the case of the American vessels, had been committed by the Russian govern-And in the second place, whether any answer had yet been returned by that government to the protest of Great Britain against its preposterous pretensions? It might be desirable to know, moreover, whether any negotiations were pending on the subject?

Mr. Canning said, that to the question of fact which had been put to him by the honourable and learned gentleman, he could only reply, that his Majesty's government had hitherto received no information upon the matter, excepting through that channel by which the statement in question had been published to all the world. had, therefore, no means of verifying the fact on which the hon. and learned gentleman's inquiry In the second place, was, founded. as to the situation in which this country stood with Russia, in respect of the general question; it was correctly stated that they had entered a protest against her claim, upon the very first promulgation of those principles. That protest had been presented and repeated, both at the congress at Verona, and in the course of subsequent negotiations. Those negotiations were still pending, and in activity at the Court of St. Petersburgh. By the last communications that his Majesty's government had received from that quarter, it appeared that no information, connected with the matter to which the inquiry of the honourable and learned gentleman referred, had been furnished to our ambassador there.

Mr. S. Rice begged to call the attention of the right honourable President of the Board of Trade. and of his right honourable friend (Mr. Wallace), to the petition which he held in his hand. That the trade of Ireland should, in all respects, be put on the same footing with that of the rest of the empire. so far as was consistent with all due regard for the revenue, was a principle not to be disputed. It would, however, surprise the house to learn, that the trade of Ireland was subject to a charge amounting to not less than one-sixth, on the average, of all freights. order to show this, he need only instance the trade between Liverpool and Dublin, or Belfast. vessel from Liverpool to Dublin would have to pay light and harbour dues only once in the year: whereas the vessel coming into the port of Liverpool, from Belfast or Dublin, would have to pay the same dues every trip. as if she were a foreign ship. He knew a case in which a single shipping proprietor had had to pay on this account, for a vessel entering Belfast, only 28L in the year; but for the same vessel entering Liverpool, in the course of her trade, the enormous sum of 1,700l. He wished to know, therefore, whether this was a subject likely to be taken up by his Majesty's go-

vernment,

vernment, or whether his right honourable friend, seeing that Irish ships paid as foreign vessels, would consider it a fair matter for the consideration of the committee on

foreign trade.

Mr. Wallace agreed perfectly in the principle that the trade of Ireland ought to be placed on the same footing as that of England. The matter of which the hon. gentleman had spoken had been made the subject of much inquiry; and in the course of the last year, the general subject of harbour and light dues had undergone a very earnest and laborious investiga-He could assure his hon. friend, that the result to which his Majesty's government had come was, that the trade of Ireland ought to be placed on the same footing as the home trade of the rest of the He trusted that the empire. committee would speedily be enabled to report on the matter, no part of which he considered more important than the question respecting Irish shipping.

Mr. Ellice begged to make a remark on the charges to which our shipping was subjected in the co-Ionies. The charge on a ship of 300 tons, in one of those colonies. amounted altogether to nearly 10s. per ton, a burden which was the more objectionable, inasmuch as these impositions were not levied so much for the advantage of the public revenue, as for the benefit of private officers. He had taken the trouble of ascertaining what were the charges on shipping paid by the Dutch in their colonies; and he could state that in no instance did they exceed 1s. per ton, and that was levied on account of police regulations principally.

Mr. Huskisson thought nothing

could be more desirable, with a view to the benefit of this country, than to reduce as far as was practicable or expedient, all charges on vessels trading to our ports, and those of our own colonies, whether they were of the United Kingdom or foreign owned. He had heard that these charges were very excessive in many of our colonies: but he much apprehended that the greater portion of them had been imposed, not by this country, but by colonial legislatures, without the interference of government. The right honourable gentleman expressed his general concurrence in the sentiments of his right hon. friend (Mr. Wallace).

Mr. Ellice, in explanation, observed, that the colonies to which he had alluded were those of Trinidad and St. Lucia, and the settlement of Demerara; in these there were no colonial govern-

ments.

The petition, which, as we collected, was from certain inhabitants, merchants and others, of Belfast, interested in shipping, praying for a revision of the duties and charges at present payable on Irish ships in ports of Great Britain, was then read, and referred to the committee on Irish trade.

Mr. Sykes moved for leave to bring in a bill to repeal the duty on tallow candles. Opposed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Mr. Curwen. Negatived without a division. Return of this tax is 350.000l.

Sir J. Macintosh, after some preliminary remarks regarding the difficulty of attracting the attention of the house to so hacknied a subject as that upon which he was going to address it, said that the first public discussion at which he had

been

been present after his return from India, was a discussion in another place upon a measure of Sir Samuel Romilly, tending to ameliorate the existing state of our criminal laws. On that occasion, he bad beard it stated, in an excellent speech made in favour of the principle for which he was now preparing to contend, that if a foreigner were to form his estimate of the people of England from a consideration of their penal laws, he would undoubtedly conclude that they were a nation of barba-This expression, though strong, was unquestionably true; for what other opinion could a humane foreigner form of us, when he found that we had 200 laws, inflicting capital penalties, on our statute-book, and yet never acted upon more than 20 of them-that we were savage in our threats, and yet were feeble in our execution of punishments—that we cherished a system, which in theory was odious, but which was impotent in practice, from its excessive severity—that in cases of high treason we involved innocent children in all the consequences of their fathers' guilt—that in cases of corruption of blood, we were even still more cruel, punishing the offspring, when we could not reach the parent—and that on some occasions we even proceeded to wreak our vengeance upon the bodies of the inanimate dead? If the same person were, however, told that we were the same nation which had been the first to give full publicity to every part of our judicial system-that we were the same nation which had established the trial by jury, which, blameable as it might be in theory, was so invaluable in practice—that we were 1823.

the same nation which had found out the greatest security which had ever been devised for individual liberty, the writ of habeas corpus, as settled by the act of Charles II. -that we were the same nation which had discovered the full blessings of a representative government, and which had endeavoured to diffuse them throughout every part of our empire, -he would wonder at the strange anomalies of human nature which could unite things that were in themselves so totally incompatible. If the same foreigner were to be told that the abuses which struck so forcibly on his attention were abuses of the "olden time," which were rather overlooked than tolerated, he might perhaps relent in his judgment, and confer upon us a milder denomination than that of barbarians; but if, on the contrary, he were told that influence and authority, learning and ingenuity, had combined to resist all reformation of these abuses as dangerous innovations—if be were informed that individuals. who, from their rank and talents, enjoyed not an artificial but a real superiority, rose to vindicate the worst of those abuses, even the outrages on the dead, and to contend for them as bulwarks of the constitution, and landmarks of legislation, he would revert to his first sentiments regarding us, though be might perhaps condemn the barbarism of the present, instead of the barbarism of the past generation. He would take the liberty of reading to the house a short description of the law of England, by a native of another country, in which its imperfections were ably and pointedly exposed to public view. The learned gent. then read a passage, of which the following is the substance; - " The criminal

criminal code of England in many respects was admirable and well adapted for the object which it had in view. Its judges were pure and placed beyond the reach of suspicion: they acted by the intervention of a jury, and were open to the censure of an acute bar, and to the control of a free press. The system, however, had its imperfections: it contained some relics of antiquated barbarism, and others of scarcely less barbarous modern misdirected legislation. There was no proportion observed by it in the punishments which it awarded to offences. Many small delinquencies were raised to the rank of capital crimes, and the same vengeance was denounced by the law against the offender who destroyed a tree, or cut down a twig, as was denounced against the wretch who committed a parricide. Laws of undue severity were also unduly executed; and the consequence was, that when a hundred individuals escaped, and one fell under the vengeance of the law, the fate of the individual who so fell was considered as an act of arbitrary rigour, instead of being considered as a sacrifice required by justice. He was regarded as a martyr, rather than as a victim to the offended majesty of the laws." Such was the opinion of an individual who, by his professional occupations and abilities, was entitled to some respect upon this subject, and who enjoyed such a reputation with those who knew his merits, that all praise at his (Sir J.Macintosh's) hands was totally unnecessary. The individual to whom he alluded, was Mr. Cranstoun, and the mention of his name rendered all farther eulogy on his character quite superfluous. The learned

gentleman then said, that to be perfectly in order with the house. he ought to have moved, before he commenced his observations ou this subject, that the resolutions of the house upon it on the 4th of June, 1822, should be entered as read. He would now suppose that it had been so read, and would proceed to remind the house of what they had already done upon this subject. In the year 1819, the house, upon his motion, appointed a committee to examine into the state of the criminal law of the country, on the express allegation that considerable defects existed therein; and appointed it in express defiance of an allegation that was then made, that such an inquiry as he proposed, was calculated to paralyze the operation of the laws, and to hold them up to public scorn and indignation. the year 1820, in consequence of the report of the committee appointed in the former session, some bills were brought into that house and passed, which little satisfied his wishes on the subject. and scanty as the reformation then effected was, it was the only reformation of the severity of the law that had been effected since the reign of Edward VI. For two hundred and fifty years the house had proceeded year after year to heap one capital felony upon another; and in all that time, down to the year 1820, no repeal of any capital felony had ever been made or attempted with success. In the felonies which after the passing of those bills were no longer to be considered capital, were comprised several crimes which were of a very heinous nature, and which could not be committed without grave forethought and deliberation on the

the part of the offenders Fraudulent bankruptcy, for instance, was a crime which excited as little compassion for the party who committed it, as any that could be found in all the black catalogue of offences; and was one which could not be effected without due consideration on the part of the individual who meditated it. It was not, therefore, from any feelings of compassion towards the offender, that the capital punishment attached to this kind of felony had been repealed, but from a conviction that the severity of the punishment gave impunity to the offence, and that the undue rigour of the law absolutely tended to defeat the object for which it was enacted—a principle which, as it had before been recognized by the house, he trusted that it would not be reluctant to re-affirm on the present In the year 1821, all that was effected was to obtain the approbation of a majority of that house to the principle of the necessity of altering the punishment inflicted upon forgery. The bill, however, which was brought in upon that occasion, was subsequently thrown out by a stratagem, of which he would say nothing more than this-that it was perfectly inconsistent with the usual practice of parliamentary proceedings where no political interest was In 1822, the house at stake. adopted a general resolution-that it would at an early period of the ensuing session take into its serious consideration the means of increasing the efficacy of the criminal code by abating its undue rigour; and that resolution it was his duty perbaps at an earlier period in the present session to have called upon the house to carry into execution.

Circumstances, however, which he would not trouble the house by detailing, had prevented him from bringing the question under their consideration until the present moment; and he should not even now proceed to the discussion of it. untill he had called their attention to another case, which was almost as bad as fraudulent bankruptcy. He bad, by some accident or another. seen that a bill was now under consideration in another place for a new regulation of the law of marriage. He approved of that bill, because it repealed the act of the twenty-sixth of George II., which was a disgrace to the English law, as it established the principle of voiding marriages, and so enabled any heartless profligate wretch to spread misery through families, and to rob them of their just inheritances. In 1820 he had attempted, but in vain, to obtain the repeal of five capital felonies created by that act. He was happy to see that they were abolished for ever by the bill to which he had just been alluding. When he ventured to propose their abolition. he was censured and abused, as a rash innovator, who was anxious to destroy the principal provisions of an act which guarded the sacred institution of marriage. Not only had his bill been strongly reprobated in parliament, it had also been attacked by much eloquent declamation out of it. But, still, in spite of the opposition which it had encountered in parliament, and the mingled powers of argument and ridicule that had been brought to play upon it elsewhere, they now found that those from whom such an admission was least to be expected, admitted the principle on which it rested, and agreed with them 02

them that the best mode of giving efficacy to the laws, was to diminish their undue rigour. They had therefore obtained this advantage, that their very opponents recognized the justice of the principle on which they acted-" Graid pandetur ab urbe." By the delay, of which he had unintentionally been the occasion, he had gained in his favour the authority of those who were the enemies of innovation, in their own, and of reformation, in . his language. If, therefore, in the course of the debate, any honourable gentleman should taunt him with being an innovator, and with entertaining desires to overthrow the constitution, he should reply to them by saying, "I appeal to your own patriarchs and elders, I appeal to the leaders of your own sect, and I say that their decision is full in your teeth and in my favour. On two distinct occasionsfirst, on the bill respecting fraudulent bankruptcy, and now on this, their new law of marriage, they have solemnly pronounced their opinion, that the best method of increasing the efficacy of the law is by abating its undue rigour. Why, then, taunt me as an innovator, when, if I do innovate I innovate under the sanction of your patriarchs and teachers?" learned gentleman next proceeded to observe that in 1822 he had been told that the abstract proposition which he then brought forward was calculated to paralyze the laws, and to suspend their opera-Now, nothing of that kind Indeed, year after year occurred. had such a prediction been made, and year after year had it been fulsified. Whenever the question was brought forward, this self same objection was made to it, and the in-

terval that elapsed between the time of discussing it always showed that there was not the slightest weight in Standing, therefore, upon the decisions to which the house had so repeatedly come of late years, he would contend, that if ever there was a case in which it was bound to preserve its own consistency, it was that on which he was at present speaking. They had before admitted, that there was undue rigour in the present state of the law, and that the best mode of relief was by abating it. was it that he now felt called upon to propose to them? He would answer the question as shortly as possible. Adhering to the principles he had formerly laid down, he felt himself called upon to submit to the house first of all, a proposition which would embrace a recognition of the propriety of all the particular measures which the house had formerly thought it right to adopt; and secondly, a proposition which would carry it somewhat farther, and in which he should embody such small additions of detail, as would loud those who blamed, to blame him for lukewarmness rather than for rashness—for an error in deficiency rather than for an error in excess. Though the propriety of abating the undue rigour of the law had in its favour the authority of all the wisest men who had either written or spoken on the subject, there was something startling in the proposition to those who only thought slightly upon it, which would perhaps render his illustration of it not unacceptable. There could not be a greater error in criminal legislation, than to suppose that the mischief of an action was to be the sole regulator of the amount of punish-

punishment to be awarded to it. For a punishment to be wise, nay even to be just, it must be exemplary. Now what was requisite to make it exemplary?-that it should be of such a nature as to excite fear in the breast of the public. If it excited any feeling in it that was capable of conquering fear—for instance, if it excited abhorrence—then it was not exemplary, but the reverse. The muximum of punishment depended on the sympathy of mankind, since every thing that went beyond it reflected discredit on the whole system of law, and tended to paralyze its proper operation. was the cause of the inefficacy of religious prosecution?—that it inflicted a punishment which was felt to be too severe for the offence which it was intended to check: that it had no support in the sympathies of the public, but on the contrary injured and outraged them all. That was the cause that the blood of the martyr always proved the seed of the church. People felt that opinions, if correct, ought not to be met by force; and if incorrect, they would sink into oblivion if force were not employed to put them down-"Opinionum enim commenta delet dies, naturæ judicia confirmat." He thought that the total inefficacy of persecution to check the growth of opinions—a persecution which always made the martyr be considered as a hero and the law as a code of oppression and tyranny-served also to prove that laws of undue severity could in no instance effectually serve the purposes for which they were enacted. To ensure them full efficary, they ought to be in accordance, not only with the general feelings of mankind, but also with

the particular feelings of the age; for if they were not so supported, they were certain to meet with its contempt and indignation. learned gentleman then proceeded to show that nothing was more false than the arguments usually urged in behalf of punishmentsnamely, that the crimes which rendered them necessary were the result of great deliberation. thought that the contrary was the fact, and that in general offenders were hurried away by the strong pass ons that were implanted in their nature, and that grew with their growth and strengthened with their strength. The law was then most efficacious when it served as a school for moralswhen it attracted to it the feelings of all good men, and when it called silently, but powerfully, upon all such to assist in its administration. Now, he would ask, what was the lesson to be derived from a consideration of the laws of England? Why, that the man who cut down a twig, or injured a cherry-tree, or stole a sheep, or he would even say forged a note, was as black a criminal as he who murdered his father, or betrayed the interests of his country to a foreign enemy. He acknowledged that this conspiracy of the laws of England against the principles of nature was not successful. The feelings of nature in the people of England prevailed over the immoral lessons taught by its penal law. That law would be detestable in its success, and was now contemptible in its failure. He had often thought that there was an under-statement of the argument on the part of those who contended that alteration in the law was necessary. They had stated, that a mitigation of it was principally

principally required by the reluctance of prosecutors and witnesses to come forward to prosecute under the present severe statutes. had forgutten, however, to state the effect produced on the feelings of the spectators. They had forgotten to state, that they rose in arms, not merely against the charge, but also against the verdict of the jury and the sentence of the judge. They had forgotten to state, that the law was thus made an object of that abhorrence which ought only to be attached to crime; and that instead of resting for its support on the aid of good men, it rested on the fear of the gibbet The learned gent. then complained, that under the present system of law, proportionate punishments were not assigned to different offences, and contended, that heavy punishments inflicted on crimes of a smaller degree of delinquency, lessened the effect of it when inflicted on crimes of great atrocity. It was curious to reflect, that Lord Hale spoke of England - speaking with reference, of course, to the time in which he wrote—as the country of all others in which the laws were most literally executed, and least committed as to their effect, arbitrio judicis. Now, how matters were changed! From four felonies upon our statute book, we had come to two hundred; and instead of being the country of the world where laws were most literally carried into effect, and least dependent upon the will of judges, we were the country of all the world in which they were least literally executed, and in which the life and death of man was the most frequently intrusted to the feeling of an individual. The

arrangements had no foundation in the principles of British jurisprudence: they were contradicted by the spirit of Magna Charta; they were hostile to the principles of the first writers on the subject of criminal law; they were but the mushroom growth of modern wantonness of legislation. test of the antiquity of the existing criminal code, he (Sir James Macintosh) would take the result of his intended proceedings: he wished to abolish the punishment of death as applied to a great variety of offences; and yet there were only two statutes with which he should meddle which were older than the revolution. if these laws had no foundation in antiquity, what foundation had they in wisdom? Why, they had neither any foundation in policy or in common sense. There had been. in the present age, an immense multiplication of capital punishments just at the very time when society was growing more civilized and humane, and wanted old severities of law repealed, rather than new ones enacted. He did not accuse parliament of cruelty or bad feeling; but he accused them of negligence-culpable negligence -of having overlooked that deep regard for the life and liberty of man, which, while it gave the strongest effect to occasional inflictions of the law, formed at the same time the best safeguard for the moral feeling of the community. To look in another view, for the moment, at the progress of the present system. The oldest reports of criminal law were the tables of the home circuit. begun in the year of the revolution, which were to be found in the appendix to the report of the criminal

criminal laws committee. Those tables began in the year of the revolution. It appeared that during the first 40 years from that date, more than half the persons capitally convicted upon the home circuit had been executed; during the last 40 years the proportion of executions to convictions upon the home circuit had not been more than one in four; and, taken through the kingdom, not so much as one in ten. Indeed, as the number of capital convictions went on increasing, the number of executions kept diminishing; for the laws were so obviously barbarous, that it became absolutely necessary, by some expedient or other, to render them nugatory. It was absolutely a fact, deny it who could, that as the severity of the penal laws increased, the impunity of crime increased along with them. He would not press this general portion of the subject much farther, nor advert to ancient laws, or to the codes of foreign countries farther than was necessary, to explain something which had fallen from him last session. He should not be suspected of selecting the Hebrew law as a model for the law of other nations: but he liked the Hebrew law for the reverence which it paid to liberty and to human life. The felony of the Hebrew code was the shedding of blood; the only theft which that code punished with death was the stealing of men; all other thefts were to be commuted for twofold or for fourfold restitution. He looked upon the Hebrew law, in its aversion to blood, as entitled to the highest veneration. He would not pause upon the ancient Roman law, so remarkably merciful on the same

point; but upon that modern law (the law of France) which now prevailed half over the continent, it was impossible for him not to dwell for a moment. Six crimes, by the French law, were punishable with death-only one of them a theft: and that a burglary of such complicated circumstance as could seldom, never, take place. He had tables, from the year 1811, of the of capital convictions. number which had taken place in France, and similar documents with respect to this country. In the year 1811, there had been 404 sentences of death in England, and 264 in France, the population of Great Britain being 12,000,000, and that of France 27,000,000; in the year 1820, the sentences of death in England had been 1,236, and in France 361 only; so that in the course of nine years the amount of capital conviction had trebled itself in England, while in France the increase had been something less than one-third. He did not attribute this variance entirely, but he certainly did trace it in a very great degree, to the difference between the French and English criminal codes. He denied that the fact warranted any inference of the superior morality of the French to the English character. With regard to the police, as preventing the commission of crime, the police had been not at all improved in France during the last nine years, and in England it had been improved considerably. He traced the difference mainly to the ill effect of the English criminal code: he believed that if France had lived under the same code as England, she would have had as many convictions; and he thought that the example of France authorized him

at least to use this argument.-If the house would not believe that great good could be done by lessening the catalogue of capital offences, it must needs admit that no evil was to be apprehended from such a course.-He should next state (the hon, and learned member continued) the resolutions which he meant to move. With the substance of those resolutions, the honourable gentlemen on the other side were acquainted; what those gentlemen themselves had to propose, he (Sir J. Macintosh) did not know. His first resolution would declare in general terms, that it was expedient to take away the punishment of death in a certain number of cases which would be specified; he should then move to substitute in those cases, the punishments of transportation or imprisonment; and he should add two resolutions, of which he trusted the house would approve—the one recommending that judges should not pronounce sentence in cases where they had no expectation of the sentence being carried into execution; and the other doing away the forfeiture of goods and chattels, and the indignities offered to the dead body, in cases of suicide. Then the cases in which he proposed to take away the punishment of death were these. He should put his resolutions into such a shape as to form a bill eventually upon each resolution. The cases as to which he proposed to take away the punishment of death were-first, those three classes of offences with respect to which bills had so often already passed the house. condly, he should touch all the felonies contained in the Black Act, except the wilfully setting fire to.

and the maliciously shooting. His next resolution would embrace the five felonies created by the marriage act. Afterwards, he should come to all those capital felonies proposed to be done away by the committee on criminal law; the measures which he was thus proposing having in fact already received the assent of the House of Commons, although they had been lost in the upper house; and he should besides move resolutions with respect to the crimes of forgery and arson, and three other capital offences, viz.-horse-stealing, sheep-stealing, and cattle-Upon the subject of the stealing. larcenies, stealing in the dwellinghouse, he had a few observations at that moment to address to the house. The executions under those laws for the last four years had been, compared with the convictions, just one in sixty-six; and it had been very truly said, that they operated as a surprise upon the sixty-sixth man who suffered, but not at all as a terror or warning to the sixty-five who escaped. fact, a law under which one criminal out of sixty-six was executed, was a law, to all practical intents and purposes, given up, and the execution of the sixty-sixth man was nothing else than a wanton and criminal waste of human existence. He objected strongly also to the principle of making the amount of property stolen any criterion for the punishment inflicted upon an offender. There was no greater moral depravity in stealing a large sum than a small one; nor was it fit that the treasures of the rich should be more strongly guarded than the comparatively small possessions of the poor. Again,

Again, he objected to the consideration of amount in a theft, because it opened a temptation to those pious frauds under which juries, from humane motives, so often violated their oaths. while he was upon this subject, he would make one observation upon the statute of the 1st George IV., which, as it had originally passed the House of Commons, took away the punishment of death for stealing privately in a shop, and in which the lords had made an alteration, changing the felony from an amount of  $\delta s$ , to an amount Now, the great justification of the statute (stealing in shops) had always been the necessity for protecting the small property of the shopkeeper; and the very 5s. amount of the felony had been quoted by high authorities, as the great safeguard of the retail trade of the country. It seemed, then, that the very first act of Geo. IV. (changing the felony from 5s. to 151.) had struck at the root of the retail trade of the country; but a mode had been found of remedying the evil in cases where shops were attached to dwelling houses, and 99 shops out of 100, in London, were in that situation. The indictment was laid for stealing in the dwelling house, and the theft became capital at 40s. By this practice, therefore, the act of Geo. IV. was rendered a dead letter. With respect to the Black Act, was it not surprising to find such a statute still remaining upon our books? The very preamble of the act showed that it was passed only Who for a temporary purpose. ever heard in these days of persons called "blacks" going about by night? And yet the act, with all its various and absurd provisions,

still formed part of the law of. England. Upon the marriageact felonies, he (Sir J. Macintosh) would not detain the house at all. Nor was it necessary to do more than just mention his intention to repeal such acts as the 21st of James I., the 27th of Geo. II, the 24th of Geo. III., and several The greater part of those others. statutes spoke so loudly for themselves, that it was needless for him to consume the time of the house in observation. His proposal, however, to take off the capital felony as to horse-stealing and cattlestealing, was new, and be should say a few words in its support. The practice of punishing horsestealing with death had antiquity certainly to bottom itself upon; he did not wish to deprive it of its only claim to the consideration of the house; but previous to the year 1749, (the date of the capital statutes against sheep-stealing and cattle-stealing,) previous to that year the agriculture of the country had flourished in high prosperity for more than two centuries; and it had thriven without those statutes, at a time when, from the greater quantity of unenclosed land. the farmer stood necessarily more exposed to depredation than he could be at present. The executions under these statutes—the horse-stealing, sheep-stealing, and cattle-stealing--had lately been, as compared with the convictions, on the average, one in every thirty. A law so executed was a temptation to crime. Thirty chances to one in a man's favour amounted to moral certainty. A man in an honest, lawful undertaking would esteem himself highly fortunate with such a prospect of success. He believed that he was wearing

out the patience of the house; but although he might be wrong in his particular views, he could not be mistaken as to the general importance of his subject. It was a heavy objection, in his mind, against those laws, that they were liable to be affected in their execution by local feelings or temporary circumstances. Judges might be told of the necessity of protecting property at a particular season, or of the great prevalence of a particular offence in a particular district; and to these considerations a man's life might be sacrificed which would otherwise have been spared. In the administration of justice, allthis was abomination. Whatever had the appearance of making a man's punishment depend upon expediency, was ruinous to the character and sanctity of the law. Then the offences under these statutes were of a private and local character; the executions of the law, where it was carried into effect, were obscure. The thief was almost always a neighbour of the prosecutor; his crime was not such as to excite indignation; he committed it probably from poverty—perhaps from absolute want; he died, nine times in ten, pitied by the little circle in which he had lived, and the law would not be popular which punished his offence The last case upon with death. which he should trouble the house was the case of forgery; and upon that question his argument should be very brief indeed. It was a question deeply interesting to every feeling of burnanity and of public justice. He appreciated the motives and the rights of those persons who stood forward to demand assurance for commercial property and commercial dealings: but still

he felt that forgery ought not to remain a capital offence. The disappearance of the small notes had happily put an end to the crime in a great degree. house would learn with pleasure, and, in that point at all events, with gratitude towards the authors of our resumed cash payments, that, while in 1821 there had been 122 persons charged with forgery, 76 convicted, and 16 executed; in 1822 there had been only 63 charges, \$6 convictions, and 6 executions. Bank forgeries, then, being considered as virtually no longer existing, the question of expediency or non-expediency of capital punishment must be tried upon the case of private forgery alone. And by whom was this crime, five times in six, committed? By clerks, relations, acquaintances. -persons with whom the party injured was probably living upon terms of familiarity, and whom, in most instances, nothing would induce him to proceed against capitally. The opinion entertained by the people, too, of any law, was always a matter of great consideration; and for the last ten years, no punishments had excited so much disgust in the public mind as the executions which had taken place for forgery. His object was to restore the jurisprudence of the country to that place in public estimation, which it had lost by the executions for forgery; this case, more than any other, called leudly for an abatement of the capital punishment He would say nothing of secondary punishments: the subject of transportstion would ere long be brought under the consideration of the house, by an honourable friend; and he (Sir J. Macintosh) would only

only congratulate the house and the country on the recent discovery of a species of hard labour, which had hitherto been attended with exemplary effects. Like every thing else, it was liable to abuse. He had read with pleasure a work by Mr. Roscoe, on the criminal law; his great talents and extraordinary accomplishments had acquired for him a deserved reputation throughout Europe; but he (Sir J. Macintosh) thought he had been a little biassed by misdirected humanity in his hostility to severe secondary punishments; they seemed to him (Sir J. Macintosh) the only road by which we could escape from capital punishments. contrivances might hereafter be invented to accommodate secondary punishments to the various gradations of crime, it would be abourd to anticipate. While endeavouring to persuade the house to abandon capital punishments, he could not, without incomsistency, recommend it to relinguish those of a secondary nature. He hoped to be able to satisfy the house that his two last resolutions were not at variance with the general principle he had laid down-that general principle being, that the criminal law could never be effectually administered but when it was in perfect unison with the moral feelings and sympathies of the people. He would apply it to the momentous circumstance of pronouncing sentence of death. The ancient forms of the criminal law were impressive and instructive, but of late, from the hurry of the proceeding and the frequency of the repetition, passing sentence had lost much of its The condemnation of a effect. fellow-creature to death for a long

time retained its solemn and dignified character, even when every other part of the proceeding had dwindled into coldness and indifference. Now, however, the sentence of death itself was reduced to a contemptible, frivolous, and even ridiculous ceremony. Tenelevenths of the persons condemned never suffered; yet, in every case the terrors of religion, and the dictates of morality, were called in aid, while the spectators, and even the prisoner himself, knew the whole to be a mere mockery. He did not, of course, mean to blame the venerable magistrates who passed the sentences: many of them, he knew, lamented the folly which the rashness of the legislature compelled them to practise. About two years ago a petition on this subject was presented from Exeter, in which it was stated that out of forty-three men condemned to death, no less than forty-one had been reprieved; so that the very frequency of the vain repetition deprived the sentence of all the solemnity it would otherwise possess. He was well aware of the contrivances some of the judges had resorted to to escape, but they had all failed, and the very attempt had rather increased than cured the evil. For some of the plans suggested by his resolutions, he had the sanction of high authority; but if they were not approved by the house, others less objectionable might be introduced by honourable members, more immediately and recently conversant with the practice of our criminal courts. Upon suicide and high-treason he wished to make a few brief remarks. The punishment inflicted in a case of suicide was rather an act of ignorant and brutal folly: it was useless as regarded the dead, and only tortured the living. The hon. member for Ipswich had given notice of a bill regarding the disgusting course pursued in case of high treason; but three years ago, be (Sir J. Macintush) had pledged himself upon the point, and had only not brought forward the measure on account of events at that time occurring, and which might mix the question with matters of politics. In his resolution, or in any bill to be founded upon it by himself or others, he did not intend to touch the subject of confiscation for high treason: had he done so, he knew that he should have excited a clamour: he should have been told, that he exposed the constitution to destructionthat he was suggesting what was never heard of before, though it was an undeniable fact, of which honourable gentlemen ought to be aware, that excepting in England, that part of the punishment for high treason had been abolished throughout the civilized world. A century ago, it had been repealed in Holland; in Russia, not less than fifty years ago: in France, Spain, the German confederacies, and in the United States of America, it was now likewise unknown. Nevertheless, he did not venture to touch it. He, however, did propose to abolish the forfeiture of goods and chattels in cases of sui-It seemed to him that if there was a punishment peculiarly unjust, it was this, where in fact the innocent suffered for the guilty. The principal human offence of suicide certainly was the desertion of those for whom we are bound to provide—whom nature and society recommend to our care. What did the law of England? It stepped in to aggravate the misery, and perhaps to reduce the fatherless to beggary: it wrested from them the brend they were to cat; in short, it deprived them of their last and sole consolation under their affliction. It was to be observed that the forfeiture only applied to personal property—it affected small savings chiefly, for large fortunes were generally laid out in land; so that it left untouched the possessions of the great. Before he proceeded farther, he wished to draw the attention of the house to the indignities offered to the dead in cases of high treason. In the only case since the reformation of the law, the man who inflicted the indignities was obliged to disguise himself that he might not be exposed to the abhorrence of the spectators. On the occasion to which he alluded, the crowd evinced no symptom of dissatisfaction until the bloody head was held up to public gaze by a man in a mask. It was the first time the law of England bad been carried into effect by an executioner in dis-This person had been called in as a skilful dissector: but so great was the disgust at the barbarous operation, that concealment was felt to be necessary. He had some doubt whether there was a sufficient warrant in law for the disgusting outrages inflicted on persons who had been guilty of their He had looked into own death. all the text books, into llawkins, Sir M. Hale, Sir E. Cope, Stauntford, Fitzherbert, and Bracton, and all spoke of the forfeiture, but said nothing of the interment. He had found no dictum even in support of it, until he arrived at the unsupported assertion of Blackstone, who,

who, indeed, made a confused reference to Hawkins. But he surrendered the legal question to any gentleman who thought he might gain a petty triumph upon it, and it might by long custom have grown into law, though only the remnant of barbarous institutions. The question was, whether it ought to be continued? First, he would ask, in what light he was to consider it? If as a punishment, it was only such to the survivors—if it were meant as a punishment to the dead, what sort of punishment was that where there had been no trial, and what sort of trial where there had been no defence? the second place, the law operated with the greatest inequality. Verdicts of insanity were almost always formed in the cases of persons in the higher stations of life: where self-slayers were humble and defenceless, there felo de se was usually returned. This might perhaps be accounted for without any imputation upon the impartiality of juries. First, because persons in high life had usually better means of establishing the excuse for the criminal act. condly, because suicide was rarely the crime of the poorer classes occopied with their daily labours. It was the effect of wounded shame, the result of false pride, and the fear of some imaginary degrada-Thirdly, the very barbarity tion. of the law rendered it impotent; for juries would not consent that the remains of the dead should be thus outraged, if they could find any colour for a verdict of insanity. He would ask any gentleman, whatever were his opinions as to the moral turpitude of suicide. whether it was a crime that ought to be subject to human cognizance: the essence of it consisted in the withdrawing of the person from the power of human tribunals, and the law of England alone stretched itself to include an offence of this kind. It was remarkable that the Roman law only inflicted confiscation upon suicides who were charged with crimes, which, if proved, would have ended in forfeiture. All others were expressly excepted in the text established in the best age of Roman jurisprudence, and under one of the wisest and ablest emperors. This circumstance illustrated the epithet insontes in a very beautiful passage in Virgil:

## "Insontes peperere manu."

It clearly had reference to the state of the Roman law regarding suicides, although the word insontes had embarrassed the commentators so much, that some of them had even proposed a substitution. It afforded one out of many specimens of the accurate manner in which this great master of poetical diction had selected his epithets. But returning to more general principles, he would observe, that there was nothing impressed upon mankind more strongly than an anxiety to pay funeral honours to the dead; affection gave imaginary life to exanimate remains, that it might, as it were, continue to perform the offices of kindness in which it once delighted; and moralists had looked upon funeral honours as one of the safeguards and outworks of human life itself. Its direct opposite was cannibalism, generally proceeding from revenge: it restored imaginary life to an enemy, for the purpose of carrying hate beyond the sphere of nature. Akin to can--nibalism was the savage practice

of inflicting vengeance after life was withdrawn beyond the power of man. It was a relic of the most barbarous ages, and was connected with the most detestable propensities of human nature. Let it not be said that the abolition of this practice was unconnected with the reformation of the criminal law. The treatment of the remains of the dead could not be considered indifferent, excepting by those who were willing to disregard the dictates of reason, the opinions of wise men, and the customs of civilized ages. He would say nothing of the state of public opinion upon this subject: some thought parliament bound to disregard it; but it seemed to him, that on such a question it was of peculiar value. If public opinion condemned the severity of the law, either it would not be executed at all, or not with effect. What was the grand problem of human legislation?—to discover the greatest punishment that with general concurrence could be inflicted upon particular acts. No criminal law could be wise against which it was possible to array the permanent feelings of good men. The orator who should declaim against punishing for parricide, assassination, or for the betraying of one's country, would only be treated with derision; while he who should oppose the infliction of death for cutting down a cherrytree, stealing a sheep, or even forging a bank note, would be listened to with attention, and would probably produce conviction. ture was on his side. He (Sir James Macintosh) would fain make the penal laws of his country the representative of the public conscience, and would arm it with all the awful authority to be deriv-

ed from such a consideration: he would make it the fruit of amoral sentiment, in order to render it the school of public discipline. would array the feelings of all good men against the dangerous criminal, and would place him in that moral solitude where all the members of society should be opposed to him, and where he should have nothing to plead for him but that pity which added weight to his punishment, by showing that it was pure from every taint of pas-The right hon. sion or partiality. gent. concluded by reading his first resolution-" That it is expedient to take away the punishment of death in cases of larceny in shops, in dwelling-houses, and on navigable rivers.

The question having been put from the chair on the first resolution.

Mr. Peel and other gentlemen spoke, after which the house divided, for the motion 86, against it 76.

Mr. R. Martin brought in a bill to prohibit bull-baiting, and dog-fighting, which was lost by 47 against 18.

Mr. S. Rice moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the laws relating to coroners in Ireland, which after some conversation was negatived without a division.

Mr. W. Wynn gave notice, that he would to-morrow move that the 53d, 54th, and 57th of George III. relative to East India shipping, should be referred to a committee of the whole house.

Mr. Forbes expressed a hope that it was intended to place India shipping and India seamen on a footing with British shipping and British seamen.

Mr. S. Rice gave notice, that

be

he would be prepared to-morrow to name a day for bringing forward certain propositions relative to the Chief Baron of the court of Exchequer in Ireland. If the gentlemen who were hostile to any proceedings of this nature were ready, he was prepared to meet them. If not, he would accede to any request that might be made to him; for he wished to act, on this momentous question, rather under the guidance and sanction of the house, than on his own individual responsibility.

The report of the masters and apprentices' bill was brought up. To be read a third time on Wed-

nesday.

On the motion for the third reading of the Scotch Sheriffs' Courts bill,

Mr. Hume rose, and complained that the measure had been hurried through the house. He moved, "That the bill be re-committed on Friday, the 30th inst., and that it be printed."—Agreed to.

Adjourned.

House of Lorde, May 22.—The apprentices' bill was returned from the House of Commons, with the amendments agreed to. Several private bills were brought up, and read the first time. The Irish commercial intercourse bill went through a committee, and was reported without any amendments. The other bills on the table were forwarded one stage.

Lord Suffield presented two petitions against the continuance of slavery in the British colonies.

The Marquis of Landown said, that seeing the noble earl at the head of his Majesty's government in his place, he would beg leave to ask him whether any communication had been made to him of any treaty, convention, or stipulation for the military occupation of Switzerland by the Austrian army. He (the Marquis of Lansdown) was not enabled to state that such an arrangement had been concluded; but it was reported throughout the country that such was the case, and even that the treaty was signed in March last.

The Earl of Liverpool said that he had never even heard of the report to which the noble lord alluded, till within the last half-hour from the noble lord himself: after that, it was hardly necessary for him to say, that he had no knowledge, either personal or official, of any treaty, convention, or stipulation, of the nature stated by the noble lord.

On the motion of the Marquis of Landown, the name of Lord Auckland was added to the committee of weights and measures.—

Adjourned.

House of Commons, May 22.—
Petitions were presented; nineteen against equalizing duties of sugars—forty-one in its favour—four against slavery—one against the London Bridge bill—one praying for power to prosecute the parents of illegitimate children—one against legalizing the sale of game—one against the new beer bill—one against certain excise prosecutions.

Mr. Huskisson called the attention of the house to a standing order of that house, which was agreed to on the 23d June 1820, that no bill regulating a branch of trade of the country should be proceeded with until first referred to a select committee: he moved, "That the said order be referred to a select committee, and that they do report their opinion whether the same is applicable

applicable to bills taking off restrictions or regulations imposed by parliament, or any branch of trade, and as to the expediency of the said order being retained as a standing order of the house."— Agreed to.

Mr. Brougham asked the same question of Mr. Canning, as the Marquis of Lansdown asked of the Earl of Liverpool respecting Austria and Switzerland, and received

the same reply.

Mr. Spring Rice, in pursuance of his notice last night, gave notice, that unless he received any such intimation as he had on that evening alluded to, he should on the 27th of this month (being the day on which there appeared the most reasonable chance of bringing the matter before the house) submit a motion relative to the Chief Baron of the Irish Exchequer. He repeated his pledge, that if any wish should in the mean time be expressed by gentlemen on the other side for postponing the consideration of this subject, he would pay every attention to it, his desire being to proceed with the most mature deliberation in the business.

Mr. Hume said, it had been reported that British cruisers had upon several occasions of late not respected the Greek flag, in the actual blockade of some Turkish ports, and had gone so far as to compel Greek ships to give up English vessels which they had taken in the act of conveying supplies to Turkish forts. He hoped at least that the British government would act an equal part between the Greeks and Turks in the present contest.

Mr. Canning said, in one or two instances the government had been

informed of a violation of the Greek blockade; but that in one instance especially, which came to their knowledge a fortnight ago, they had immediately sent out most positive orders that the British cruisers should respect alike the blockades of both powers.

Mr. Stuart Wortley moved that the Speaker do issue his writ for the election of a new member for the borough of Bossiney, in Cornwall, in the room of the Hon. John William Ward, lately called to the Upper House as Viscount Dudley and Ward.—Ordered.

General Gascopne moved, "That an humble address be presented to his Majesty, praying that he would be graciously pleased to give directions that the warrant issued on the 6th of March last, be re-considered, and that the payment of the half pay pensions and allowances of the officers in the army and marines, resident in Ireland, be continued to be paid in British currency as heretofore."

Lord Palmerston promised to consent to certain regulations, but

opposed the motion.

General Gascoyne said, he would consent to withdraw his motion, in the hope that the noble lord opposite would redeem the pledge which he had given.

The motion was accordingly withdrawn.

Mr. Whitmore brought forward his motion for equalizing the duties of East and West India sugars, which was lost by 161 against 34.

A committee was appointed to consider Mr. M'Adam's claim for remuneration, for inspecting the public roads.

Mr. C. W. Wynn brought in a bill to consolidate the law for punishing mutiny and desertion among among the troops of the East India company, read a first time.—Ad-

journed.

House of Lords, May 23.—The royal assent was given by commission to the Union duties, Irish militia reduction, quorum magistrates, apprentices, and several private bills.

Earl Talbot presented a petition from Newcastle-under-Lyme against slavery in the British co-

lonies.

The Irish commercial intercourse bill was read a third time,

and passed.

On the motion of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the second reading of the marriage laws' amendment bill was fixed for Tuesday next.

The Duke of Newcastle presented a petition from Newark, co. Nottingham, against the claims of

the Roman Catholics.

The Irish county Treasurers' bill went through a committee.

On the motion of the Earl of Donoughmore, the time for giving the securities was extended from Michaelmas to January next.

Several other amendments of an unimportant nature were, after some conversation between the Earl of Caledon, Lord Dufferin, and the Earl of Donoughmore, agreed to.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, May 23.— The Deputy Usher of the Black Rod appeared at the bar, and summoned the house to the House

of Peers.

Upon the Speaker's return he informed the house that the royal assent had been given by commission to certain bills.

Petitions were presented for an alteration in the laws relating to masters and workmen—against the 1823.

game laws—two against the beer bill—against slavery—from William Leslie claiming the invention of the roads usually ascribed to Mr. M'Adam—against the Scotch linen bill.

The house went into a committee upon the examination into the conduct of the Sheriff of Dublin, Sir R. Heron in the chair. Several witnesses were examined, after which the house resumed, and the chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Monday.

The other orders of the day were disposed of, and the house ad-

journed,

House of Lords, May 26.—A person from the office of chief secretary of Ireland presented the fourth report of the commissioners on Irish fisheries.

The Earl of Donoughmore presented a petition from Edward Parker, clerk of the crown, of the city of Limerick, against the Irish grand jury presentments' bill.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, May 26.—
A person from the office of chief secretary for Ireland presented a copy of the grand jury panels of the city of Dublin for the last seven years.—Laid on the table.

Petitions were presented for a reduction of the duties upon foreign bark—from Dublin for an alteration in the law between principal and factor—from the coroners of Galway respecting their fees—from London against the Southwark small debts bill—against the leather tax — against slavery—upon the subject of agricultural distress—for the continuance of the bounty on the importation of sulphur.

Sir T. Lethbridge presented a petition

petition from Mr. William Parker. complaining of the oppressive manner in which he had been treated at the Cape of Good Hope. had gone out to Africa as a free settler, accompanied by "more than 220 individuals," but all hopes had been ruined, and his property destroyed, by the arbitrary course which was adopted towards him. Against the colonial secretary, Lieutenant-Colonel Bird, the allegations of the petition were directed. The petition prayed for the fullest inquiry. He had already appealed to other authorities, to whom he had a legitimate right of appeal; but, as redress was refused to him, he now came to the house as his last re-The hon. secretary (Mr. Wilmot) would perhaps say, that this case should be referred to the commissioners who had been sent out to the Cape. This had been done, and they referred it back to the governor; since which, Mr. Parker had heard nothing about The petitioner was now in London, and was ready to come forward to prove the whole of his allegations.

The petition was then read.

Mr. Wilmot said he could give no better proof of the discussion which this subject had undergone in the colonial office, than by stating that the correspondence upon it there, occupied 599 folio pages. From all he knew of the business, he thought there was a prima facie case made out against Mr. Parker; at the same time he would be ready to produce any explanatory papers upon the subject.

Mr. Hume hoped that the hon. bart, would bring forward a motion upon the subject, as he had reason to know that the grossest individual injustice was inflicted in the colony alluded to. He had heard of various flagrant instances, which, like the present, he thought ought to be considered at the bar of that house.

Mr. Wilmot promised to produce the fullest documents on the

subject.

Mr. Hutchinson hoped that the inquiry would be called for by the hon. bart. It was a question, he had reason to believe, which involved a severe individual grievance, and one that ought not to be passed over without due inquiry.

Mr. Bennet complained of the encouragement which was, he understood, afforded by government to emigrate to Africa. Convinced, from indisputable facts, that ruin and misery attended the spirit of emigration so encouraged, and that not a single shilling ought to be devoted to it, he would on a future occasion call the attention of the house to the subject.

Sir N. Colthurst thought, on the contrary, that a spirit of emigration ought to be encouraged from the south of Ireland to the colony. He believed the case of Mr. Parker to be one which loudly called for

inquiry.

After a few words from Sir T. Lethbridge and Mr. Goulburn, the petition was laid on the table.

Mr. Sergeant Onslow postponed until this day week, the second reading of the usury laws' repeal bill.

Mr. Calcraft said, as soon as the inquiry into the conduct of the Sheriff of Dublin was closed, which would be at an early hour, as he understood there was only one witness to examine, he would, with the consent of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, submit to the house

his

his motion for the repeal of the leather tax.

The house then went into committee upon the conduct of the Sheriff of Dublin; Sir R. Heros in the chair. Sir Abraham Bradley King was examined, and considerable discussion was occasioned both to-day and last Friday, upon his objection to answer certain questions, which his oath as an orange-man (deputy grand master) forbase him to reveal.—It was carried, not to press him upon those points. After which,

Mr. H. G. Bennet suggested the necessity of an adjournment, as it was half-past twelve o'clock.

After some conversation on that point, and on the future order of proceeding, the house resumed; the *Chairman* reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Tuesday.

The second reading of the sale of game bill was fixed for Monday.

The committee on the Irish unlawful oaths bill was postponed until Friday.

The other orders of the day were then gone through, and the house adjourned.

House of Lords, May 27.— Lord Stanley, accompanied by other members of the House of Commons, brought up the Manchester gas-light and several private bills, which were read the first time.

Lord Colchester moved the third reading of the Shadwell church bill,—The bill passed.

The Marquis of Lansdown presented a petition from the clergy and lay impropriators of the diocess of Clonfert, which included the county of Kerry and part of Cork, in favour of some measure for the commutation of

tithes. The noble marquis stated, that the petition had been some time in his possession, but he had delayed presenting it, in the expectation which he, in common with others, had entertained, that the eminent persons composing the bierarchy of Ireland would, as they certainly had intended, have. presented a petition hostile to the prayer of that which he had the bonour to hold in his hand. that expectation he confessed he had been most agreeably disappointed, and he trusted those eminent persons had seen reason to reconsider the subject, and had entirely abandoned their intention of presenting a petition. opinion expressed by these petitioners was entitled to the highest respect, and they told their lordships that they deemed it essential to the happiness of the country, essential to the order of the country, and farther, that it was essential to their own interests, and those who were to succeed them. that this measure should be made part of the permanent law of the land. The adoption of the measure would expunge from the statute book, laws of a most cruel and tyrannical nature, which no circumstances could ever have induced the legislature to pass as applicable to England, but which, it was alleged, were necessary to maintain the system of tithes established in Ireland. He was ready to admit that the majority of the Protestant clergy in Ireland did not press the laws to the utmost extent; but he need not press on their lordships the danger of leaving the law in such a state, that its utmost extension, even by the minority of the Protestant clergy, would spread most widely the P 2

the sphere of discontent, and irritation, and insurrection; for (if this were the proper time) be should be prepared to show, that by this cause alone insurrection had been excited where it had never raged before. He was ready to admit that this species of property was sacred, but not in the sense that some persons understood it: it was sacred to the moral and religious instruction and happiness of the people of Ireland. hoped soon to see some practical measure introduced, which would have the effect of forwarding those great objects.

The petition was then read, and ordered to lie on the table.

The Archbishop of Canterbury moved the second reading of the marriage laws' amendment bill. His Grace gave a brief outline of the nature of the bill, and stated that there was one clause in it of very great importance, which had been thrown out by the house in the last session of parliament-he meant the voidability clause. That clause was rejected, in consideration of the substitution of certain preventive clauses, which had in practice been found not only useless, but highly objectionable. ommittee, therefore, had one of .hree courses to adopt—either to leave the minor without the protection which the exercise of the parental rights were calculated to afford him: to re-enact the clause of the 26th Geo. II.; or to insert the clause in its present mitigated state, confining the interference to the parents and guardians, and that to be exerted within a limited time. Of the three courses, the last appeared the least objectionable (not that it was entirely free from objection), and therefore it was

adopted by the committee. had frequently heard in that house an argument against the dissolubility of marriage, founded on the law of God; and the words in the marriage ceremony were referred to, which forbade those whom God had joined being separated by man; but the question recurred, what is that marriage which is inseparable, because it has the sanction of God? A marriage might be had which was not allowed by the laws of God; the ordinances of the Almighty, therefore, could not be satisfied without some intervention of human laws. God had formed man for society, and at the root of society lay the institution of marriage, but the particular forms in which it should be solemnised were certainly left to the discretion of society.

Lord Ellenborough said, he should say but a few words, as he thought the more convenient time to enter at length on the discussion would be when the bill was in the com-Their lordships would mittee. look to the state of the law as it at present stood: for the last two or three months we had been under the law as it stood after Lord Hardwicke's act passed, with the exception of the nullity clause, and no inconvenience had been found to arise from that clause having been got rid of. This certainly was not the bill which he had ex-After what had dropped pected. from the noble and learned lord (the Lord Chancellor), he had expected a full and comprehensive law on the subject of marriage; but, in fact, this contained little more than was in the last act. He had thought it important that all the doubts which hung over marriages solemnized in foreign countries

tries should be cleared up, and that persons so situated should be freed from their doubts, without resorting to a competent court in this coun-He was also desirous that trv. facilities should have been afforded to dissenters and Roman Catholics. and that they should have been enabled to marry in their own chapels by priests of their own persuasion, as he understood was the case with Roman Catholics in Ireland. Roman Catholic foreigners, coming to this country, might not find it consistent with their religious feelings to have recourse to the formalities of this country. Another thing, as the law now stood, incestuous marriages might take place; and with regard to the poorer classes of people, where no property was concerned, the marriage would be valid, and the issue legitimate; but not so where any property was concerned, for there the next heir would interfere. remove this inequality between rich and poor did seem to him most desirable: he wished, therefore, that all marriages against God's law should be declared null and void ab initio. It had been declared by that house and by the general feelings of the country, that there should be no alteration with respect to the publication of bans; that clause, therefore, which professed to preserve the rights of parents could with ease be evaded. As the marriages by bans were to remain as they were, it would be matter of little difficulty for a minor to form a valid marriage by The husband also might carry his wife out of the country, and form a marriage abroad, which could not be contravened. So that if the object were to form a good marriage, all the clause of voida-

bility was nugatory; but if it were the intention of the minor to form an invalid marriage, then this clause acted with full effect, and with a rigour of cruelty to the weaker sex, which he could hardly have expected that house would have countenanced; besides, their lordships were to maintain parental rights, they should look to the rights of the father of the wife as well as of the husband; but he (Lord Ellenborough) could not conceive any circumstances under which the parent of the woman should desire to see the marriage voided. The clause bore entirely on the weaker party: it was, in fact, an encouragement to seduction, under the semblance of marriage: and instead of the clause being introduced by the right reverend prelate and a learned and noble lord, it would seem as if it were the production of a set of dissolute minors, who were desirous of legislating according to the morals professed by the theatrical hero Don Juan.

The Earl of Westmoreland briefly opposed the clause.

The Biskop of Chester opposed the clause, as it seemed to him directly contrary to the word of God; but he would reserve himself to prove what he had asserted when the bill should be in a committee. The reverend prelate observed at some length on the nature of the voidability clause, and asked whether it was a clause proper to be enacted by any Christian legislature; he, at all events, would not be one to give his vote for putting asunder those whom God had joined.

The Bishop of Derry, in answer to one of the observations of the noble lord (Ellenborough), con-

tended

tended that incestuous marriages were null and void ab initio, according to the present law.

Lord Ellenborough would not be positive as to the correctness of his observation, but he would rather have the exposition of the law from a learned lord, than from the reverend prelate.

The Lord Chancellor said, they had been told it was not a proper time to discuss the measure; therefore, though he had been appealed to, he would only say, that he was clearly of opinion, that the law of scripture, as well as the law of the land, must be a good deal more considered than it appeared to him they had yet been.

The bill was then read a second

time. --- Adjourned.

House of Commons, May 27.—
Petitions were presented complaining of distress from the island
of St. Christopher — against the
coal duty — against altering the
present law with regard to stamping linen—against the duty on the
importation of sulphur.

Lord Althorp brought up the report of the committee, to whom it had been referred to consider the most effectual mode of recovering small debts, and moved that it be printed, which was agreed to.

Sundry petitions were afterwards

presented.

Mr. Brougham wished to know whether the lords of the Treasury had received an estimate of the expenditure to be incurred in the intended buildings, to form an addition to the Admiralty department in New-street, Spring Gardens; and also, whether there were not parts of the Admiralty and Victualling Boards at present unoccupied?

Mr. Lushington promised to

make the necessary inquiries, and to answer the question to-morrow.

Mr. Hume wished to know, for the purpose of shaping his course respecting an inquiry into the state of some of his Majesty's colonies, whether it was the intention of the government to continue Sir T. Maitland as governor of the Ionian Islands?

Mr. Wilmot said, that it was not, so far as he was informed, intended to remove Sir Thomas Maitland from that command.

Mr. Lennard said, that he had little to say in introducing his motion for leave to bring in a bill to alter and amend the laws respecting the burial of persons who have been adjudged felo de se, as be understood no opposition was intended to be made to it. As the law now stood, a felo de se was deprived of the rites of burial, and exposed to the indignity of having a stake driven through his body. infliction of this odious and disgusting ceremony was not, he believed, enjoined by any written enactinent, but by an old custom. By the canon law, three classes of persons were deprived of Christian burial; these were—all who were guilty of felo de se, excommunicated persons, and those who had not undergone baptism. It was only in the case of felo de se that he wished to interfere, and there only to abolish the practice of the mere indignity of applying the stake to the body, for he meant to leave the burial to be performed in private wherever it might be thought proper.

The honourable member obtained leave to bring in his bill.

Mr. Hume, at the suggestion of Mr. Peel, who urged that Mr. Goulburn had left his place not thinking thinking the motion would come on to-night, consented to postpone, until the 17th of June next, his motion for discontinuing the establishment of lord-lieutenant and chief-secretary in Ireland.

Mr. Wilmot Horton obtained leave to bring in bills for the establishment of civil courts in the colony of Honduras, and for the better administration of justice in New South Wales.

Mr. Peel said, that in the debate on a former night, respecting the state of the criminal laws he had distinctly explained his intention of bringing in certain bills to enable the government to employ male convicts at hard labour, and to relieve the judges from the necessity of passing sentence of death upon certain malefactors, except in cases of murder. These bills would be printed, and then their nature would be fully understood. He had discovered and taken cognizance of two crimes which were not enumerated in the list of capital felonies mentioned on a former night—these were stealing woollen cloth from the tenter books, and destroying hop-binds. The right hon, gentleman obtained leave to bring in bills to extend the benefit of clergy to certain cases therein to be mentioned.

On the motion of Mr. Calcraft, the house resolved itself into a committee upon the conduct of the Sheriff of Dublin: Sir R. Heron in the chair.

After some conversation,

Mr. Calcrast moved, that the chairman do leave the chair, and report the evidence to the house.—
The motion was carried unanimously.

The house having resumed, the question was put, that the report be brought up.

Mr. Peel took the opportunity of complimenting the late Chairman on the impartiality which he had exhibited whilst presiding over the committee.

Sir R. Heron then presented the report of the evidence, which was ordered to lie upon the table.

Upon the motion of Mr. Wynn, the minutes were ordered to be laid before the house, and the witnesses were absolved from farther attendance. The inquiry thus terminated.

Mr. Daly moved the recommitment of the Irish joint tenantcy bill.

Mr. R. Martin objected to the bill, because it would disfranchise a large portion of the Roman Catho-

lic population of Ireland.

Colonel Trench thought the principle of the bill most excellent. One of the great evils of Ireland was the splitting the land into so many small divisions for the purpose of creating votes. which was a blessing in this country—the great number of electors -was a curse in Ireland; for it only exposed the peasantry in many large districts to every species of bribery and corruption to drunkenness and every kind of disorder. His only objection to the bill would be, that it did not go far He wished for the introduction of a clause by which leases in common might be entirely put an end to.

Sir J. Newport fully concurred in the opinion of the hon member who spoke last. Nothing, he thought, brought greater misery upon Ireland than the many subdivisions of land amongst such a multitude of tenants.

After a few words from Mr. L. White, which were inaudible in the gallery,

Mr.

Mr. T. Ellis expressed his entire concurrence in the principle of the bill.

Mr. J. Daly (who introduced the bill) contended that it would not have the effect pointed out by the hon. member for Galway (Mr. R. Martin), of disfranchising a great portion of the Roman Catholic freeholders. He then went on to show the great evils arising in Ireland from the system of joint tenantcy, which the bill was intended to correct.

Mr. C. H. Hutchinson said, that nothing could be farther from his intention than the countenancing the system of fictitious voters in Ireland. He would go as far as any member to prevent such an abuse; but he still objected to the bill as tending to disfranchise a large portion of the people of Ireland; and he also objected to the bringing on of such a question in the then thin state of the house. where there were not more than a dozen Irish members present, and of these only a very few who were connected with the south and west of Ireland, where the measure would be most operative. spoke not from any feelings of personal interest, for he had the honour to be returned by a city (Cork) where the bill would have little or no operation: but he still objected to it as embracing a principle calculated to excite great discontent and dissatisfaction in Ire-A great deal of discontent had been already excited by the loss of that most important measure, the Catholic question, and he now warned his honourable friend (whose intentions he admitted to be very pure) how he pressed a measure calculated to increase the present irritation. He should have no objection to allowing the bill

to go into the committee, and there let his honourable friend make it as perfect as he could; but after that, he would wish to let it remain over till the next session, to give the several counties of Ireland an opportunity of considering it in all its bearings. In that case he would pledge himself to the hon. member to give the matter his best consideration in the next session.

Sir G. Hill approved of the bill, but the suggestion of the hon-member for Cork (Mr. Hutchinson) was so fair that he could not but concur with it.

Mr. Grattan did not think that the bill went to disqualify a great part or any part of the Roman Catholics, but to establish the system of election by bona fide freeholders.

Mr. R. Martin said, if the honmember did not intend to press the bill this session, he would not object to going into the committee; but if he did intend to press it, he would divide the house.

The house then divided, when there appeared—For going into the committee, 54—Against it, none.

The house therefore went into a committee, Colonel Trench in the chair; after which the house resumed, and the report was ordered to be received to-morrow.

Mr. Spring Rice said, that as he understood from hon gents on the other side of the house, that it would not be convenient to them for him to proceed that evening with the motion on the conduct of Baron O'Grady of which he had given notice, he should let it stand over till to-morrow, when the house would be enabled to determine on what day it would be most expedient to bring it on.

The

The other orders of the day were then read, and the house ad-

House of Lords, May 28.—Sir J. Newport, accompanied by several other members of the House of Commons, brought up the Irish county treasurers' bill, with their lordships' amendments agreed to. The Irish grand jury presentments bill was also brought up, and afterwards read a first time.

A person from the Court of King's Bench presented returns pursuant to their lordships' order.

The Earl of Donoughmore, on the first reading of the Irish grand jury presentment bill, observed. that by this bill the salaries of the clerks of the crown and the clerks of the peace in Ireland were regulated: but although the clerks of the peace had greater duties to perform, their salaries were left as they were, whilst the salaries of the clerks of the crown had been doubled; and this doubling extended to seventeen counties of Ireland. He could not be aware on what ground this alteration was made, but he wished to be informed on the subject. He therefore moved that the bill be printed, and afterwards lie over for a week, when it might be referred to a select committee.

Agreed to, and the bill was accordingly ordered to be printed.

The Duke of Rutland presented a petition from the wool-staplers of Leicester, against the duties on foreign wool.—Ordered to lie on the table.--Adjourned.

House of Commons, May 28.— Petitions were presented against the practice of manufacturers paying their workmen in goodsagainst the beer bill -- against slavery.

Lord Althorp obtained leave to bring in a bill for the better regulation of county courts.

Mr. Hume stated, that returns, in pursuance of an order of the house, had been made from Scotland, showing the prosecutions in the departments of the excise and customs. The latter returns were complete; but to make the former equally so, he moved for returns of the excise prosecutions in Scotland during the last five years, specifying the name of each case, the result, and the expenditure.-Motion agreed to.

Two petitions were presented complaining of the manner in which special juries were elected by the Master of the Crown-office. who, it was complained, out of two or three thousand names, selected those to which the title of esquire was attached; by which means all the rest were prevented from performing an important duty to their country.

Several members bore testimony to the master, Mr. Lushington; but it was admitted that he had it in his power to select a jury if he pleased.

The petition was ordered to be

printed.

Lord Nugent moved for leave to bring in a bill to remove certain tests, by which Roman Catholics might be eligible to certain offices, and be placed upon the same footing as the Roman Catholics of Ireland.

Several members supported the motion; and Mr. W. Smith hoped that test acts of every kind would soon be altogether removed.-Leave was given to bring in the bill.

Mr. Maberly moved for a select committee upon the duties on malt

and beer. He stated that the tax upon beer was collected in two ways: the tax upon malt, which amounted to about twopence per gallon upon porter, and twopence three furthings a gallon upon ale (this was paid by the private as well by the public brewer); and the tax upon beer, which amounted to threepence halfpenny a gallon upon porter and ale, and seven farthings a gallon upon the new beer brewed under the bill of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The private brewer, therefore, paid only twopence or threepence a gallon duty upon his liquor; while the poor man, who was compelled to purchase from the common brewer, paid sixpence. Now this was a heavy and a most unfair tax upon the lower orders; and if the whole duty could be collected upon malt, laying an additional tax upon that article, not only would the impost press equally upon all classes, but a sum of no less than 280,000l. per annum (being the cost of collecting the beer duty) The quantity of might be saved. malt that might be consumed in England was about 26,000,000 of bushels annually. Of this quantity, little more than 7,000,000 of bushels were used by private brew-An additional duty of two shillings a bushel upon all malt would return as large a sum to a revenue as was gained by the present tax on beer. This was the course which he recommended to the house; and if it was said that laying so high a duty upon malt be a temptation to brewers to substitute noxious drugs for it in their beer, he should answer, that the public would have the same penal securities against that practice under the system he proposed, as

under that which now existed. Mr. Maberly sat down by submitting, that at all events the case was a fit one for inquiry, and by complaining of that part of the Chancellor of the Exchequer's new bill which compelled table-beer brewers, if they wished to make the new beer, to get fresh premises for the purpose. The bill was at best but a bill of experiment. entirely to destroy the present trade of the table-beer brewers; and it was hard, for the mere experiment of a year, either to stop their business and profits, or subject them to the heavy expense of taking fresh premises.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer opposed the going into a committee. As to the saving in the expense of collection, the hon. member for Abingdon was mis-280,000l. was the sum charged in the estimates for collecting the beer tax; but that charge was rather arbitrary; because the same persons who collected the beer tax were also employed in other duties: they supervised the maltsters, the glasshouses, tea-dealers, and brick-carts; and, therefore, the sum put down was rather a matter of average than of exact calculation. In addition to this, it must be evident to every one, that if an additional, and a large additional duty, was laid upon malt, the expense of collecting the malt duty would be increased. The duty being higher, the temptation to evade it must be counteracted by additional vigilance. He did not mean to deny that some saving in the expense of collection would arise from taking off the beer duty; but those who expected to save 280,000l. a-year, or any thing like it, would be mistaken.

He did not deny that the rich were entitled to least consideration in the question. It was true that they would have to pay a large portion of tax if they should continue to brew their own beer. But the bon. gentleman would have the house and the people believe that no one brewed beer but the rich. For his own part, he could not leave out all the farmers, great and small, who not only brewed for themselves, but gave beer also to their labourers as a portion of their Any additional duty on wages. malt must, in such cases, increase pro tanto the costs of production. He considered that this was a most improper time to undertake the discussion of this question. government were at present engaged in considering some alterations in the regulations of Scotch and Irish distillation. But, besides this, the amount of the duty on malt was between nine and ten Any interference with so important a branch of the revenue must be a subject of considerable delicacy. He would, in any case, prefer the plan of the member for Reading, to equalize the duty on beer, without increasing that on malt. He was convinced that there would be no saving in the collection of the duty by the plan of the honourable gentleman, that there would be no increase in the consumption of malt, and that the poor would not be at all benefited by it.

Sir J. Macintosh maintained that his hon, friend had made out a clear case, which the right hon, gentleman had not been able to answer, in proving that the poor might be relieved from a considerable burden of tax on beer without any detriment to the revenue, and

with a considerable saving in the collection.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer explained.

Mr. Hume said, that the expense of collecting the beer duty, amounting to 275,000l. might be saved altogether by placing the duty on the malt. He was convinced that if the beer duty were repealed, and the malt duty lowered to 9d. or 1s. a bushel, the benefit would be sensibly felt by the country and the landed interest, and he really believed that the revenue would not suffer from the alteration. He judged by the effect which the increase of the malt duty had\_ produced. It was almost incredible that the consumption of malt should be now, notwithstanding the increase of population, no higher than it was in 1792.

Mr. J. Bennett objected to the proposed measure, because in these times, when the agricultural interests were so much depressed, any additional duty on malt must increase the burden. Public brewers would, owing to the improvements in machinery, and the extent of their capitals, be enabled to sell beer cheaper than private brewers. notwithstanding the transfer of the duty: and if 2s. a quarter should be added to the malt duty, it would have the effect of putting a stop to private brewing altogethen It would give him great pleasure, if the right hon, gentleman (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) would apply his mind to the reduction of the beer duty, which he thought might be easily effected without taking the burdens from one class and putting them on another. He was obliged to disapprove of the present motion; but if his hon, friend would alter it, so as to make make the inquiry for a general rather than a specific object, he would willingly support it.

Mr. Maberly explained.

Sir John Newport said, that by returns which he held in his hand, it appeared that from the year 1752 to 1808 the consumption of beer in Ireland had increased from 59,000 to 426,000 barrels annually. During this period nearly the whole of the beer had been imported from England. In the year 1809, a different system had been proposed; and although it was opposed by Mr. Beresford, then at the head of the revenue, it was adopted. The brewer was left free from restriction, and the consequence was, that the number of barrels imported fell from 426,000 to 38,000; the revenue was doubled in the article of malt. the consumption was powerfully increased, and it was of home production instead of foreign importation. In the whole history of revenue accounts, no illustration could be more complete than this circumstance furnished of the expediency of taking off all restrictions from brewers.

Colonel Wood opposed the motion, because the good which it preposed in reducing the price of beer was quite insignificant, while the evil to the farmer would be considerable. The great consumption of beer during the herwest rendered it an important article in the expenses of an agriculturist; and to impose an additional tax on malt would be to increase his burdens, already too beavy.

Mr. Wodehouse also opposed the motion.

Mr. Western would willingly

support any proposal to reduce the duty on malt or on beer, but not to transfer the one to the other. He believed that if the beer duty were totally annihilated, the loss which that must occasion to the revenue would shortly be made up by the increased consumption of malt. He could not, therefore, acquiesce in the motion before the house.

Mr. Byng expressed his dissent from the motion, on the ground that no description of persons would be benefited, while the agriculturists would be in a worse situ-

ation if it were adopted.

Mr. Ricardo thought that his honourable friend, Mr. Maberly, had shown the tax on beer to be upequal, and that one class was exempted from it, while another was obliged to pay. He had shown, also, that the diminution in the expense of collecting this tax would assist the revenue. honourable member regretted that this had been made a question between the agricultural and other classes; but even if it were true that the tax had an unequal operation, in this respect also the sooner it was equalized the better. He would ask the house whether. if the duty paid ought to attach on all persons consuming beer, it ought not to attach equally? The motion should have his hearty support, because it went to accomplish this object.

Lord Althorp said, that the wish so often expressed by honourable members to encourage private brewing, would be defeated by this measure, if it should be carried. He had always maintained that the landed interest paid an undue proportion of taxes: if, therefore,

an opportunity offered of lightening in some degree the weight which oppressed them, he thought it was very fair to do so. The hon. member for Portarlington cheered him; and upon this, as well as upon other occasions, he regretted they differed. Still, when the house looked to the amount of poor-rates paid by the farmer, he hoped it would think he was entitled to some consideration on the present occasion.

Mr. Alderman Wood supported the motion.

Mr. Monck said, before the malttax was imposed, the shopkeeper or farmer could brew his beer at twenty shillings the quarter (malt): now, however, he could not brew it under thirty-six shillings per quarter. He repeated his oftenexpressed conviction, that the malt duty was neither more nor less than a land-tax; and remarked upon its great inequality as affecting the rich least, and the poor most-an inequality which had existed ever since the 8th and 9th of William and Mary, and must have been designed as a compensation to the landed interest for their compliances with the views of the government of the day. The honourable gentleman supported the motion.

Mr. Grey Bennet saw no reason why 1,200,000 beer-drinking families of artisans should be obliged to pay forty shillings and upwards per quarter, while a very small and much richer portion of the community should pay only twenty shillings. He supported the motion for the inquiry.

Mr. Maberly, in reply, declared that he had heard no argument to induce him to suppose that the whole of this subject might not be most conveniently entertained in a committee.

The house then divided: for the motion, 27; against it, 119.

Mr. Fysche Palmer moved for leave to bring in a bill to enable public brewers to retail beer in less quantities than four gallons and a half, provided the same be not consumed upon the premises of the brewer.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, that there was no necessity for such a bill; inasmuch as the law had already provided for its objects.

Mr. Monck thought nothing could be more fair or wise than the principle of his honourable friend's proposition, which he did hope the right hon. gent. would not oppose.

Mr. Herries thought some misunderstanding existed on the other side on this subject. The brewer, under the present law, might take out two licences—namely, the public brewer's common licence, and the retail licence—a circumstance which obviated the difficulty complained of, as furnishing the ground for the present metion.

Mr. Benett (of Wiltshire) supported the motion.

Mr. F. Polmer, in reply, said his only object was to give the brewer the opportunity of becoming either a wholesale or a retail dealer. Seeing the disposition of the house, however, he would withdraw his motion.—Motion withdrawn accordingly.

Mr. R. Martin moved for leave to bring in a bill to regulate the issuing of writs of capius utlegatum in Ireland.

The house divided on the question—Ayes 43; Noes 23.

The

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the

house adjourned.

House of Lords, May 80.—The Royal assent was given by commission to the Irish commercial intercourse, Irish charitable loans society's, the profane swearing, and several private bills. The Lords Commissioners were the Lord Chancellor, the Earl of Shaftesbury, and Lord Metrille.

Lord Stanley, accompanied by several other members of the House of Commons, brought up the masters and apprentices' bill, together with some private bills.

A person from the Treasury presented the fifth report of the Commissioners of Inquiry. A person from the East India-house afterwards presented the annual accounts of receipts, charges, and payments of the East India Company.

The Earl of Rocksavage presented a petition from Cambridge, against negro slavery in the co-

lonies.

The Lord Chancellor, on the subject of the bill for comprising the whole of the law relating to bankrupts in one act, with such additional clauses as might be considered necessary, observed, that he had some time ago given notice of his intention to bring in such a bill, and the bill was now ready to be brought in; but on looking over the clauses of it, he had thought it would be more convenient if it were brought into the other house. The bill had his approbation; and if it were not brought into the Commons on an early day next week (which he had reason to believe it would), he would himself introduce it into that house .-Adjourned.

House of Commons, May 30.—At four o'clock, the Deputy Usher of the Black Rod summoned the House to attend in the house of Lords, for the purpose of hearing the royal assent given to several bills.

A person from the East India Company presented the annual account of proceeds of the sale of goods and merchandise for the last year.

Petitions were presented against negro slavery—against the coal duties, — and that the rules of the King's Bench might be abo-

lished.

Mr. Attwood presented a petition from the cotton-weavers in the town and neighbourhood of Stockport, complaining of great distress, and praying, first, that some measure should be adopted to check the use of machinery; and next, that the local magistrates should be empowered to fix a minimum of wages. It was the opinion of a very large body of meu, that these were the only means by which their distress could be averted.

The petition having been brought

up.

Mr. G. Philips said, after all the inquiry he had made with respect to the condition of the weavers of Lancashire at the present moment, he was inclined to think that they had greatly exaggerated the statement of their distresses. The cotton spinners' wages were, it was true, very low; but the price of provisions was so extremely moderate, that they could live comfortably on those wages. That was undoubtedly the case when he was last in Lancasbire; and the fact was proved by the reduction of the poor-rates, as well as by the reduced number of applications for private

private charity. With respect to machinery, he would now re-assert what he had formerly repeated, namely, that where machinery was used, the wages were the highest. Where cotton machinery was introduced, the comforts and wages of the artisan were improved. They were paid more for managing machinery, than for the mere labour of their own hands. would contend, that no means were so effectual for the benefit of the manufacturing class, as the introdaction of machinery; and if Parliament were foolish enough to comply with the prayer of those who wished to discourage machinery, they would inflict the greatest possible injury on the public, and especially on the petitioners themselves. If a minimum of wages were established, so far from the weavers being relieved by such a project, they would at one time of the year have no employment at all. The most prudent course would be, to leave the trade perfectly unshackled, and open to the arrangements of the parties immediately concerned—those who employ labour, and those whose labour was so employed.

Mr. Curwen was convinced, that if a minimum of wages were established, it would produce great mischief. Four or five years ago, when several petitions similar to the present were laid before the house, a committee was appointed to consider them. Delegates from the operative manufacturers. and other individuals conversant with the subject, were then examined; and he believed not one person attended who did not go away perfectly satisfied that such a system would be most mischie-Amongst the members of the committee, there was not the

slightest difference of opinion on this subject.

Mr. Bennet said, a very useful publication on the subject of machinery, written by Mr. Cobbett, had been circulated throughout all the manufacturing counties, and had effected a change of opinion no less extensive. Those who had not read that work ought to read it: because there was no publication, which, for a rational and practical view of the subject, could be compared with it. He had learned more from it than from any publication of the kind he had ever read.

Sir I. Coffin said, if the use of machinery were abolished, two-thirds of the manufacturers of this country would be reduced to starvation.

Mr. Ricardo said, much information might, undoubtedly, be derived from Mr. Cobbett's publication, because he explained the use of machinery in such a way as to render the subject perfectly clear. He was not, however, altogether satisfied with the reasoning contained in that pamphlet; because it was evident, that the extensive use of machinery, by throwing a large portion of labour into the market, while, on the other hand, there was no corresponding increase of demand for it, must, in some degree, operate prejudicially to the working-classes of the community. But still he would not tolerate any law to prevent the use of machi-The question was, if they nery. gave up a system which enabled them to undersell in the foreign market, would other nations refrain from pursuing it? Certainly not. They were therefore bound, for their own interest, to continue it. Gentlemen ought, however, to inculcate this truth on the minds of

the working classes—that the value of labour, like the value of other things, depended on the relative proportion of supply and demand. If the supply of labour were greater than could be employed, then the people must be miserable. the people had the remedy in their own hands. A little forethought, a little prudence, (which probably they would exert, if they were not made such machines of by the poor-laws,) a little of that caution which the better-educated felt it necessary to use, would enable them to improve their situation.

Mr. Maxwell differed from those who were of opinion that a low rate of wages was serviceable to a country. The reverse he conceived to be the fact; because, from the circumstance of low wages, a great degree of crime and discontent were engendered; and when that was the case, great expense must be incurred in the prosecution and punishment of offenders. trusted that the right hon. gent. (Mr. Huskisson) would pay some attention to this petition. population of the country, whether agricultural or manufacturing. should, he thought, be protected as much as possible from the effects of machinery, since it was that population by whom the taxes were paid.

Mr. G. Philips instanced the fact, that the wages of the artisan were more liberal where machinery was used, than where it was not used, as a proof that its introduction was not hurtful to the weaver.

Mr. Ricardo said, his proposition was, not that the use of machinery was prejudicial to persons employed in one particular manufacture, but to the working classes generally. It was the means of throwing additional labour into the market, and thus the demand for labour, generally, was diminished. —The petition was laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Maxwell presented a petition of a similar nature from certain inhabitants of Middlesex and Surrey. He observed, that wages were higher, the working classes would be able to consume a greater quantity of produce of every kind; and they must all acknowledge, that to devise a mode by which the consumption of produce would be extended, was a great desideratum. As the house seemed averse from bearing any thing on the subject of a minimum of wages, he should merely move that the petition be brought up and printed.

The petition was laid on the table,

and ordered to helprinted.

Mr. Kennedy moved for copies of a correspondence with the Postmasters-General, relative to the establishment of steam-packets between Port-Patrick and Donaghades.—Ordered.

He also moved, "That it be an instruction to the Port-Patrick harbour committee, to consider the propriety of establishing steampackets between Port-Patrick and Donaghadee."—Ordered.

Mr. Campbell moved for an account of the quantity of barilla imported into this country, in each year, from 1810 to 1823; and also an account of the quantity taken out of bond, in each year, for the same period.—Ordered.

On the motion of *Mr. Hume*, an account was ordered of the annual receipts and expenditure of the board of trustees in Scotland, during the last ten years. Also, a copy of a letter to the Marquis Wellesley

Wellesley, respecting a loan to Messrs. Nowlan and Shaw.

Mr. Hume then gave notice, that on Tuesday next he would move for a copy of the special jury panel in the Court of Exchequer; and on the same day he would move for the appointment of a select committee, to consider the laws which prohibit artisans from leaving this country.

On the motion of Mr. Scarlett, the Lancaster county court bill went through a committee: the report was received, and ordered to be taken into farther considera-

tion on Wednesday next.

Lord A. Hamilton remarked, that there were twenty-six orders of the day on the paper, and complained that one of them respecting Scotland (the sheriffs' court bill) stood for a third reading, without having been yet discussed. He hoped that it would be brought on at such an hour as to admit time for deliberation.

The Lord Advocate of Scotland said that he was ready to proceed with the bill at this moment, if other honourable gentlemen would yield to him precedence.

Mr. Huskisson moved the order of the day for the committee upon

the reciprocity of duties' bill.

Mr. Robertson said, that he feared the effect of this bill would be to take away the last safeguard of their naval superiority. He knew no more efficacious way of preserving that maritime preeminence, than by levying a higher duty on the ships of those countries which could build them cheaper than the British. America could build much cheaper than they could; and France and Portugal were also advantageously placed, in the same comparison. 1823.

He did not mean to oppose this committee; but when they went into it, he only implored them to consider seriously the state of the maritime interests of Great Britain, with a view, if not to their promotion, at least to their protection. Nothing afforded him greater pleasure than to have heard the first Lord of the Treasury (the Earl of Liverpool), at a meeting of ship-owners, in the city of London, state that it was not ber insular situation which alone afforded security to Great Britain from foreign invasion, for that had been found defenceless at several periods of her earlier history; but that it was to the principle of her navigation laws she was indebted for security. The house ought, therefore, to pause before they equalized the international duties, which would deprive them of their present superior maritime advantages.

Mr. Huskisson regretted that any discussion was excited upon the bill at this moment, and, lest it should be prolonged, he would consent to postpone the committee

until next Monday.

Mr. Calcraft said, that with reference to one of the dropped orders, his notice of motion for the repeal of the leather tax, he saw no chance, in the present state of the business of the horse, of reviving it in the course of the present session. He must, therefore, content himself with giving notice, that unless between this and the next session, a great alteration was made in the mode of collecting this tax, or unless it was repealed altogether, he should feel it his duty to bring the subject early before the house.

Mr. Western postponed his mo-

tion, which stood for next Thursday, until the 11th of June; and until the same day he meant to defer his motion respecting the qualification of jurors. He hoped his hon friend behind him would give him precedence on that day.

Mr. Hume consented to give precedence, and would therefore postpone his motion on the inexpediency of punishment for expressing opinions against religion, from the 11th to the 19th of June.

Mr. Bankes brought up the report of the committee upon the standing order, which required a reference to a select committee previous to the introduction of any new measure on the subject of trade. The report recommended the repeal of that standing order.

Sergeunt Onelow said, that he had introduced the standing order alluded to, in consequence of a similar regulation having been made in the House of Lords.

Mr. Calcrast would yield to the recommendation of the committee, although he thought such a standing order might often prove most salutary, in preventing the hasty introduction of most mischievous bills.

In pursuance of the recommendation of the committee, the standing order was rescinded.

Mr. Goulburn moved the order of the day for the house resolving itself into a committee upon the commutation of tithes bill.

Sir John Nicholl rose to enter his protest against the principle of this bill being considered as in any sense applicable to tithe property in England. . He was aware that from a variety of causes there was a distinction to be drawn between tithes in Ireland and in this country. In the former a considerable

portion of the tithes formed lay property. He knew that at various times enlightened men proposed certain modifications of the tithe system in England, which they were afterwards obliged to abandon, upon finding that they were utterly impracticable. repeated, that the state of Ireland rendered a measure upon the plan of this bill necessary; but great care should be taken to express in the preamble, that the measure was solely applicable to Ireland, and in no respect to England. The situation of the two parts of the kingdom respecting tithes was not at all parallel, but rather a con-He had heard objections started to some of the contemplated arrangements; but these could be better discussed in the commit-There were two principles tee. which ought to be carefully guarded in the proposed bill. One was that the substitute for tithes in kind should be fairly and adequately computed; he did not mean that it should be fixed at the bighest penny of the tithe, but upon a fair estimate between all parties. The other principle was, that the composition should keep pace with the prices of the times.

The house then resolved itself into the committee.

Mr. Goulburn moved that the preamble be postponed; and he took the opportunity of assuring the hon. and learned gentleman who had just spoken, that care should be taken to set forth that the principle of the regulation was exclusively applicable to the state of Ireland.

Several of the resolutions were read in succession, and received some verbal amendments.

After some farther conversation

the

the chairman was ordered to report progress, and ask leave to sit again on Monday next.

Mr. D. Browne moved the third reading of the joint-tenancy

bill.

At the suggestion of Mr. C. Hutchinson, this measure, which

he deemed objectionable, was deferred until Monday next.

The English Catholic relief Lill was read a first time, and ordered to be printed.

The other orders of the day were then read, and the house adjourned.

## CHAPTER V.

Scotch Entails.—Scotch Representation.—Marriage Act Amendment.—
Irish Joint Tenancy.—Mr. M. Borthwick.—Adjustment of Contracts.
—Scotch Transference of Securities Bill.—Law of Settlement.—Baron O'Grady.—Court of Chancery.—Sale of Game.—London Bridge Advance Bill.—Reciprocity Duties Bill.—Irish Tithe Commutation Bill.—Scotch and Irish Distillery Bill.—Spitalfields' Silk Act.—Leeward Island 42 Per Cent.—Expense of Coronation.—Civil List.—Cash Payments.—Dissenters' Marriage Bill.—Brimstone Duties Drawback.—English Juries.—Assessed Taxes Composition.—Prison Laws Consolidation.—Beer Bill.—Usury Laws.—Burning of Widows in India.—State of Ireland.—Radical Reform.—Navy Promotion.—Scotch Juries.—Scotch Commissioners.—Supply.—Irish Insurrection Act.—Lord Lieutemant of Ireland.—Capital Punishment.—House of Lords Appellate Jurisdiction.—Administration of Justice in Ireland.—Merchants Bill.—Criminal Laws.—Sundry Petitions, &c. &c.

HOUSE of Lords, June 2.—A person from the office of the commissioners for the reduction of the national debt, presented an account of the unredeemed debt for the year ended 5th April, 1823.

Lord Dudley and Ward took the oaths and his seat, on his accession

to the title.

Lord Stanley and other members brought up a message from the House of Commons, requesting the attendance of the Earl of Chichester before the committee on the claim preferred by Mr. - M'Adam.

The Earl of Chickester being in

the house expressed his readiness; to attend, and the same was communicated to the Commons.

A message from the Commons also communicated that the house had granted permission to Sir George Clerk and Mr. Davies Gilbert to attend their lordships' committee on the weights and measures bill.

The Earl of Donoughmore presented three petitions from individuals against the Irish grand jury presentment bill.

The Earl of Darlington presented a petition from Charles Pitt, of Adam-street, Adelphi, against

Q 2

the 27th and 28th sections of the marriage amendment bill, and suggesting an additional clause.

The Earl of Lauderdale objected to the petition being received, as inconsistent with their lordships' regulation not to receive a petition from any individual except it complained of a specific grievance.

After a few words from the Earl of Darlington, the petition was rejected.

On the motion of the Earl of Aberdeen, the Scotch entails' bill was read the second time, and ordered to be committed on Monday se'nnight; after which his lordship proposed that it should stand over, in order that it might have the fullest consideration in the quarter which its provisions would most materially affect.

- The Marquis of Lansdown presented a petition from John Clarke. of Shipton, in Yorkshire, complaining of having been committed to hard labour in the tread-mill of the prison at Northallerton, and detained one year and forty-four weeks for want of sureties in articles of the peace exhibited against him by his wife. His lordship said though he knew there was some difference of opinion on the question of the power of the magistrates to commit to hard labour before conviction, yet he had no hesitation in saying, that in the present instance, if not illegal, it was highly inexpedient to have committed the individual to hard labour, and more particularly to that species of hard labour. Of the necessity of preserving the distinction between prisoners committed and prisoners convicted, there was no difference of opinion in any His lordship also preauarter. sented a petition from the inha-

711

bitants of Whitby, praying the house to take measures for the gradual abolition of slavery in the colonies.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, June 2.-Petitions were presented against any alteration in the Spitalfields' laws-against the slave tradefor an improvement in the line of communication between Portpatrick and Donaghadee-from Benjamin Wingrove, praying that his merit as an improver of roads should be referred to Mr. M'Adam's committee—from Thomas Joplin. praying that certain regulations might be laid upon bankers to prevent a fluctuation in the circulating any alteration medium---against in the Scotch linen laws—against the coal-meting system of London and Surrey.

Sir T. Lethbridge begged to state that at the suggestion of many able friends of the agricultural interests of the country, he was ready to withdraw his motion, which stood for Thursday next, on the state of agricultural distress. He was most happy to notice the contrast of circumstances between this time, when he abandoned his motion, and that when he gave notice of it. The state of things now afforded him a hope of a great alleviation, if not the entire extinction of that melancholy state of distress which had so recently involved a large body of those engaged in the agriculture of the country.

After a remark from Lord Folkestone, the notice of motion was accordingly withdrawn.

Lord Ebrington rose to present the petition of the freeholders and others of the county of Devon, praying for a reform in the Commons House of Parliament. He was aware that after the last deci-

sion

sion of the house on the subject of reform, it might be said this petition was unnecessary; but he must be permitted to reply, that the decision to which he referred, so far from satisfying the people that reform was unnecessary, had only more strongly convinced them of its urgency. A requisition had been originally transmitted to the sheriff of Devon to convene this meeting; but upon his refusal, the county was convened by the magistracy, and he had the honour of presiding. He had to inform the house, that this petition was not only unanimously agreed to at the meeting, but that also it was signed, and next the signature was the address and description of the subscriber, by 5161 freeholders. leuseholders, and copyholders of the county. 4000 of the number were actual freeholders, a greater number than had ever polled at any of their county elections. He was authorized to add, that many more residents of the county would have signed it, had they not thought it useless to press this question upon the attention of the house. He then moved that the petition be brought up, and laid on the table.

Mr. Newman stated that he was present at the meeting, and could add his testimony of the fact of its unanimity and respecta-

billity.

Mr. Tremayne remarked, that he had passed through the town during the meeting, and certainly tid not witness the manifestation of seal which the petition imported. As the noble lord said that 4-5ths of the petitioners were freeholders, he would not dissent from that description of the parties, although it was one which otherwise he should have doubted.

Sir F. Ommanney thought that the petition ought not to be laid on the table. With respect to the alleged sufferings of the petitioners during the war, the house need not be told of the benefits they derived from the maritime expenditure at Torbay, Exeter, and other parts of Devonshire.

Mr. P. Moore asked whether either of the hon members who spoke last could contradict the strong facts asserted in the petition respecting the necessity of a reform in the Commons House of

Parliament?

Lord Ebrington thought it natural for the hon, baronet opposite (Sir F. Ommanney) not to feel any strong relish for popular opinion, still less to be an advocate for parliamentary reform. But whatever was the hon, baronet's opinion, he was convinced the house would not for a moment so far forget its duty as to attend to his extraordinary proposition for rejecting the peti-It was competent for the tion. honourable baronet to try the fate of his recommendation by pressing his view of the subject to a division. The other hon member (Mr. Tremayne) had remarked that he saw no appearance of bustle as he casually passed through the town on the day of the meeting. The reason was obvious: the people were all unanimous, and therefore the absence of any collision of sentiment prevented any appearance of bustle or disturbance. With respect to the signatures, when the petition was printed, as he trusted it would, it would be open to any honourable member to ascertain the correctness of the annexed descriptions and addresses of the subscribers; but he had what he believed to be the best information in favour of the accuracy of the petition in all its parts, and be was desired to say that 3370 of these petitioners had polled at the last county election.

The petition was laid on the table, and ordered to be printed, with the single negative of Sir F. Om-

manney.

Lord A. Hamilton rose to call the attention of the house to the state of the representation of the counties in Scotland. He was not aware that any alteration in the representation of that country would be for his individual advantage; but he looked beyond that, and took the question up as one which was likely to benefit the public. He wished to call the particular attention of the right bon. gentleman opposite (Mr. Canning) to this important question. It was. as far as he (Lord A. Hamilton) knew, one which the right hon. gentleman had never touched—a species of reform with which he had not grappled. It was quite different in its nature from that of any question of reform in England. The representation of Scotland, so far from being similar, was a direct contrast to that of England. In England representation was founded upon property and population.-Neither the one nor the other formed necessarily the basis of the elective franchise in Scotland. the Scotch counties, representation was not founded on property; in the Scotch burghs it was not founded on population. Property was excluded in the counties, and population in the burghs; for no extent of land, no possession of property, necessarily conferred a right of voting in that country. In England, the object of all the laws on the subject of representation, was to correct the abuses which had crept in, and to enforce the rights of electors; but he would show, that the defects of the system in Scotland did not rest in the abuses of the law, but in the very nature of the law itself. On this subject, he would read to the house the opinion of a very grave authority on this subject-that of the Lord Chancellor Thurlow. wbo. speaking of the state of the representation in Scotland, said, that the evil was fundamental, and such as the legislature alone could re-The noble lord then read medv. the extract, in which Lord Thurlow declared, that such was the state of the representation in that country, that the right of election might be in the hands of those who had no earthly stake in the country. This opinion he (Lord A. Hamilton) intended to make the ground of some of his resolutions. To these who were not conversant in Scotch laws and customs, it was difficult to give a clear idea of what really constituted the right of a vote at an election for a member of parliament. It rested, as he had said, not upon property or population, but on the possession of a piece of parchment, which conferred no rank, and little or no property on its holder; for the property to which he might have claim by it might not exceed the value of one penny. It might, in some respect, be compared to the copyhold system in England. If a lord of a manor has forty persons paying him one shilling each per year, he would thereby be a forty-shilling freeholder, and would, by his qualification as a voter, be supposed to represent that sum of property. But if each and every one of those persons who paid paid the shilling were worth 1,000%, and still paid only the shilling, there still would be only the 40s. represented by him. Such a case m this rarely occurred in England, but it was the general case in Scot-This was clear from the land. rolls of the freeholders in that country. He had moved in 1820. for a return of the number of voters in Scotland, which was laid. before the house. From that return it appeared, that the entire number of voters in the country was less than 3000—he believed Now, when the house beard that out of such a population as that of Scotland, there were so few voters, he thought it would be sufficient to induce them to grant all be asked: which was, to consider the state of the representation of that country, with a view to remedy its evils. He had stated that the number of voters was only 2889; but in fact it should be taken at somewhat less, because many names (of persons having votes in several counties) occurred frequently. As one instance, he might he allowed to mention his own case. the right to vote in five counties in Scotland, in not one of which did he possess an acre of land; and he had no doubt, that if he took the trouble, he might have a vote for every county in that kingdom. In some counties two persons were named in each register of a vote by what was termed, "far and life rent," and of these two each had a right of voting in the absence of the other. In some counties they voted alternately. From such a small aggregate of voters as he had mentioned for the whole country, the number in each county could be but small. In no

٠. ٠

county did the number of voters exceed 240, and in one it was as low as nine. He begged here to be distinctly understood. He did not mean to say that the possession of property did not give a vote. All he meant to state was, that no extent of property, however great, necessarily conferred the right of voting, unless it was accompanied with what was termed "a superiority" of land. But this superiority might be possessed without any property whatever. He now came to show what was the kind of control of the constituents over the representative. In the county which he represented (Lanarkshire) the number of voters, from superiority and property, was 66-the number from superiority alone was So that the 9.5 without any property could return whom they pleased to select, and the persons who really held the property of the county could not prevent it. this, he would ask, a state of things which ought to be allowed to contipue? In his county there were 154 commissioners of supply, who were, in fact, called to do the whole business of the county, except at elections, and of these not one had a right to vote. In another county the number of voters from property and superiority were 100; those from superiority alone, 614 There were 54 commissioners of supply who had no vote. In England the defects of the borough representation were said to be corrected by the representation of the counties; but in Scotland the representation of counties served only to aggravate the evil. In the counties, as he had shown, the representation might be quite distinct from property; and in the boroughs how could the evil be remedied,

where fourteen or fifteen self-elected persons returned a member of Parliament? Again, what was the result of this system, when the conduct of Scotch members was canvassed and commented upon in that country? Why, it was made an objection to many of them, that they were not the representatives of the people, but merely the representatives of the few who returned them to parliament. was the case in the instance of his hon. friend (Mr. Hume), whose conduct was severely commented upon in Scotland in certain papers which circulated there under high authority about two years ago. was there objected to his honourble friend, who was called the member for Aberdeen, but who, it was known, had not the support of Aberdeen, that he was not the representative of the people, and did not speak their sentiments-that he was chosen by a very few. fact, the same objection might be made to almost every election in Scotland. So much for the freeholders. He would now come to the application of the principle of representation to the population. In the counties the proportion of electors to the population was one in 625; in the burghs it was one in 7600, and upwards. Was this, he would ask the house, a state of things which ought to be allowed to remain? Was it what could be called a full and fair representation of the people? He would not trespass on the indulgence of the house, by entering into the minute detail which the subject afforded. He would confine himself to the statement of a few circumstances which occurred in the late contest for the representation of the county of Lanark, by which a judgment

might be formed of the system, as well as if he entered into it more at length. About two years before the close of the late parliament, Admiral Cochrane published an advertisement, stating that on the next vacancy he should offer himself for the county of Lanark: at that time he was wholly disqualified, for he was not a freeholder, and the law of Scotland required that a candidate should be a frecholder for a year and a day. The object of his partisans from that moment was, to make a number of paper votes, to counteract the majority that had expressed itself in his (Lord A. Hamilton's) He accumulated a number of technical superiorities wholly unconnected with property. contest, in fact, was merely between the government on the one hund, and himself on the other. place the matter in the strongest possible point of view, he would state what he (Lord A. Hamilton) He endeavoured, on his part, to obtain as many superiorities as he could buy, and these he divided into as small portions as would qualify a voter, taking care that they should not exceed a single penny either way, being 400%. Scotch. His next business was to find persons to hold them, and here he must observe a little mystery; upon all the rest of the case he would be perfectly open, but he could not inform the house how he obtained those persons; that was a secret, and must remain so. it were necessary, he should resort to the same course at the next election. No doubt, the noble lord opposite (the Lord Advocate) had adopted the same expedients, or better, for no man could doubt his skill and knowledge in these matters. It was worth notice, however, that his (Lord A. Hamilton's) law agents in Scotland seemed to have had a peculiar gift of knowing from their physiognomy what persons might or might not be trusted with superiorities, and he did not believe that in a single instance they had voted against him. The details of a Scotch election were somewhat amusing, and he hoped that the right hon, gentleman (Mr. Canning) would favour the bouse with his opinion upon them, and not deal merely in highflown generalities. Having taken legal advice, he (Lord A. Hamilton) advertised for persons to whom be might intrust the superiorities he had bought; and here he begged to read the questions that were pat to voters at Scotch elections. He had collected them from public agents on such occasions. first was-" Did you apply for your freehold qualification?" Next "Was application made to you to accept of the said freehold qualification, and by whom?": 3dly, "Did you pay any price for the qualification, and what was it?" 4thly, "Was the expense of making up your titles paid by you, or by whom?" 5thly, "Did you give any orders for making out your titles, that you might get your name enrolled as a freeholder?" 6thly, "Do you derive any pecuniary emolument whatever from your freehold?" 7thly, " Do you receive the duties established by your title; or if not, by whom are they received?" 8thly, "Do you consider yourself bound in honour to vote for the candidate whom you believe the grantor favours?" 9thly, "Do you feel yourself bound in honour to renounce your right, if convenient, to the granter?" 10thly, "Woold you feel yourself bound in bonour to renounce your right rather than vote against the candidate whom the grantor favours?" All these questions deserved attention on the part of the house, although he admitted they would excite nothing but ridicule if any body should attempt to put them at an English He now came to what election. was called the "Trust Oath," and it was in this form-"I, A. B., in the presence of God, do declare that the land and estate for which I claim a right to vote is in my possession, and is my own proper estate, and that the same is a true and real estate in fee." Any person unacquainted with the practice of Scotch elections would suppose that a true and real estate in fee meant an estate in land: such would be the English interpretation of the words: but Scotch electors were told on high legal authority, that it meant only the possession of what was called "a superiority." He would now say a few words as to the mode of conducting elections: and he considered, if possible, more ob-The greatest objecrectionable. tion to it was, that it threw so much power into the hands of the Crown, or of those dependent upon the Crown-the sheriffs of counties. In the first place, the sheriff had the right to fix the day of election; and as the right of voting depended upon possession for a year and a day, it so happened in the case of Lanarkshire, that a great advantage was given by the sheriff to Admiral Cochrane, who had made some twenty votes, a few days earlier than about the same number of voters in his (Lord A. Hamilton's) interest. Thus, his voters.

voters, by the act of the sheriff, were excluded. A great part of the science of the sheriff depended upon the fixing the days of elections; so that gentlemen who had a right of voting in various counties should not have the power of On the occasion to doing so. which he alluded, this science was displayed much to his discomfiture, for though he succeeded, he succeeded by a small, instead of a large majority. The Lord Advocate, and the hon. member for Glasgow (Mr. A. Campbell) must know that elections were often prolonged by all sorts of chicanery, in order that votes might be ripened. If necessary, a vast deal of time was occupied by the talking of lawyers, and at the last Lanarkshire election it had been determined in consequence, that no lawyer who was not a freeholder should be There were, however, beard. about twenty still left, to talk just as much as they pleased. He recollected an instance at one Scotch election, where, it being necessary to send a messenger to Edinburgh, the lawyers undertook to talk till be should come back, and they did It was to be observed also, that the poll in Scotland admitted of no adjournment, and scenes in consequence were not unfrequently witnessed highly discreditable to the humanity of the age. He had seen voters brought in litters, and kept at the doors to prevent their polling. The election being over. as a matter of course, twenty-five law-suits, respecting the right of voting, had been started against him, and though he had succeeded, it was a great evil that the right of voting should be involved in such difficulty and mystery, as to reader the resort to a court of law necessary. He knew that spe-

culations had been entered into, as to whether this or that president of a court was most likely to be favourable to government. Among what were called the fifteen old judges of Scotland, the result of u political question might be as easily guessed, as the result of a debate in this house. He agreed, however, that considerable alterations in this respect had taken place of late; but he asserted, nevertheless, that such a political hias existed in the Courts of Scotland, that no man would venture within their walls with a question of that sort. He would undertake to prove that in the case of Mr. Borthwick, where he (Lord A. Hamilton) was a pursuer against the Beacon newspaper, that political bias had been in operation. He would stake his character and reputation upon the fact, that with eight men out of ten that political bias operated against him. After the election for Lanarkshire, he had been charged in the petition with gross and corrupt bribery but after the law-suits were defeated, that accusation was withdrawn. He should be glad to know why this odious system was to be What had long been continued. the character of Scotchmen in the eye of the world, and why was the word Scotch almost synonymous with the word job? He arraigned the house as the cause, for whenever a motion had been made to remedy the evil, it had been resisted. He now came to his last point—the method by which he would correct the objections he had stated. On this subject he was disposed to say very little, and would, in fact, merely give the outlines of his plan. He first laid it dawn as a position, that be would destroy no existing right, but he

would add others which did not exist. He would introduce some question between properties and superiorities, by making the vote depend in some degree upon the dominium utile; or if that were not deemed qualification enough, he would include also a certain extent of personal property. He should think that a hundred pounds Scots, or eight pounds English, would be sufficient. The number of electors would thus be increased, and in general his object would be to approach as nearly to the spirit of the English Constitution as was practicable in countries so differently circumstanced. The leading point he wished to impress upon the house was, that whereas Scotch county elections nught to be correctives of the Scotch burghs, they were in fact augmentations of the evil. He could conecive few things more painful than for a member to be returned by twenty or thirty council-men, while there were thousands who, if they had had a right to vote, would have opposed him. The present member for Edinburgh (Sir G. Clerk) was returned by about thirty electors, while there were 80,000 of the population decidedly against The situation of the hon. member for Aberdeen (Mr. Hume) was directly the reverse. He was elected in spite of thirty councilmen, and 30,000 inhabitants of Aberdeen rejoiced in his return. His (Lord A. Hamilton's) object was that the house should now only pledge itself to take the subject into consideration early in the next session, and for this purpose he had drawn up the following resolutions, the four first of which, it would be seen, were merely decla-TRIOTY:---

- "1. That it appeared by a certified copy of the roll of freeholders of every county in Scotland, as last made up, laid before this house in July 1820, that the total number of persons having a right to vote in all those counties together did not exceed 2889.
- "2. That by the same return it appears that the greatest number of persons having a right to vote in any one county did not exceed 240, viz. for the county of Fife; and that the smallest number did not exceed nine, viz. for the county of Cromarty.

"3. That it farther appears from the same return, that the persons have a right to vote in several counties, and consequently that the total number of voters for all the counties in Scotland is considerably less than 2889.

"4. That it further appears to this bouse, that the right of voting for a Scotch county depends, not on the possession of the dominium wtile of a real landed estate in that county, but on holding the superiority over such an estate, which superiority might be, and frequently is, disjoined from the property, insomuch that of all the persons qualified to vote for a Scotch countty, there may not be one who is possessed of a single acre of land within the county, while the whole of the land may belong to, and be the property of, persons who have not a single vote for the representative.

"5. That this house will, early in the next session of Parliament, take into its most serious consideration the state of representation of counties in Scotland, with a view to effect some extension of the number of votes, and to establish some connexion between the right

of voting and the landed property of that country."

Mr. Maxwell begged leave shortly to second the motion, and contended that the people of Scotland were extremely dissatisfied with the existing system, claimed of the house that a change should be made. No doubt the support Ministers received in some places was conscientious, but in general their friends had displayed credulity rather than discretion. The state of the House of Commons-the feeling of the members who composed it-might be read in the general conduct which they pursued towards the country. The labouring classes were ground down by taxation. The merest necessaries of life paid tribute to the state. The manufacturer was reduced to the lowest rate of wages upon which it was possible for life to be maintained; and he was forbidden by law to carry his abilities abroad, even although he should not be able to find a market for them at home. He (Mr. Maxwell) could hardly believe that any Scottish freeholder could look at such a state of affairs, and not feel himself in some degree responsible for it; that he could think of the manner in which the revenue was collected in his country, or of the vice and general discontent which of late years had arisen there, without being reminded that much of this evil lay at his door. If it was worth while for a country to have a representative system at all, such a system ought to be a substantial, and not a nominal one; it ought to be a system in which the people could place confidence, and not one upon which no minister ever could rely, if he brought forward any

measure for the people's benefit. The hon, gentleman sat down by supporting Lord A. Hamilton's motion.

Sir George Clerk and Mr. Kennedy next spoke in favour of the present mode of election, and against any alteration.

Sir J. Macintosh supported the motion.

Lord Binning opposed it, as did also the Lord Advocate. It was farther supported by Mr. J. P. Grunt, Lord Milton, and Lord Glenorchy.

The house then divided upon a previous question as to the noble Lord's preliminary resolution, when there appeared, for the previous question—152; against it—117.

The question was then put on

the original motion.

- Lord Milton took that opportunity to express a hope that these resolutions might be made known all over the country. The recent majority was so small, that it could scarcely have been anticipated by many of the gentlemen who spoke early in the debate.

Sir J. Sebright expressed his entire concurrence in the resolution.

The original motion was then negatived without a division;

Mr. J. Williams gave notice, in the absence of the honourable barronet, the member for Westminster, that on Thursday, the 12th inst., he would submit certain resolutions to the house, founded on the evidence given in the enquiry into the conduct of the Sheriff of Dublin.

Lord Cranborne moved the order of the day for the second reading of the sale of game bill, which was carried by 82 against 60.

The bill was then read a second time.

time, and ordered to be committed to-morrow.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the house adjourned.

House of Lords, June 3. -Lord Calthorpe presented a petition from certain individuals againstthe Ely drainage bill.

Lord Hardwicke defended the bill.—The bill was afterwards read a third time, and passed.

A message from the House of Commons requested their lordships would communicate the return of the number of appeals decided in that house in each sesmon since May 1818.

Eurl Groscenor stated, that it had been his intention to have submitted some measure to their lordships on the subject of certain offices in Scotland, which, although sinecures, were connected with others which were not sinecures: he more particularly alluded to the situation of clerk of the Parliament, respecting which he thought some regulation was necessary; but having communicated with noble earl (Liverpool), he had conceived that the whole subject had better be submitted to a committee: be (Earl Groevener) trusted that the noble earl would take an early opportunity of moving the appointment of the committee.

The Earl of Liverpool concurred in opinion with the noble earl, that the situation of clerk of the Parliament was a proper one: to be submitted to the consideration of a committee, as to its future regulation after the existing. interests should have expired. had stated to the noble earl, who appeared to have somewhat misapprehended him if he applied

what he (Lord Liverpool) had said to other offices.

The Earl of Harewood presented two petitions from woollen manufacturers of Leeds and Huddersfield against the duties on foreign wool, and observed at some length on the inexpediency and injustice of the duties in question.

The Earl of Liverpool said, that some years ago a duty was laid on foreign wool, and it was then predicted that it would not be productive; but the contrary was the fact — the duties had risen from 250,000l. to 400,000l. per annum. This was the state of the question" as it regarded revenue; but had' any injury been sustained by the woollen manufacturers? Their lordships would find from the returns on the table that the exportation had increased. He admitted that with respect to some parts of Europe that was not the case, but it was very doubtful whether that could be imputed to the operation. of this tax, or whether it did not, in fact, arise from those causes which had affected the agriculture of the rest of Europe as well as our own. The question then stood thus-with respect to revenue, the tax was productive: as it regarded manufactures, it was not injurious. As to the justice of the tax, he would only say that he would be willing to give up all the advantage of the 400,000l, a year to the revenue, provided the manufacturers agreed to the free exportation of wool; but so long as they objected to that, he should not feel! justified in giving up the other. That was the extent of what he lie thought this no more than fair as it regarded the interests of agriculture. On the question whether the wool trade should be thrown

open and the tax repealed, or that it should remain as it stood, he would not now enter. The manufacturers had been fully acquainted with the views of government, and under the present circumstances he did not feel justified in supporting the prayer of their petition.

Earl Powis presented a petition from Ludlow, against the insolvent

debtors' act.

Their lordships then went into committee upon the marriage amendment act, when the clauses in succession were read, and, with some trifling amendments, agreed to, until that relating to the "voidability of marriages for want of consent of the father, by suit to be commenced within twelve months," was proposed, which was negatived by 28 against 22.

Several other clauses were then proposed and agreed to, after which the house resumed, the chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to ait again on Thursday

next.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, June 3.— Sir Joseph Yorke presented a petition from the Hon. John Lindsey, the proprietor of a small island, called Herne, off Guernsey, in which there was some fine granite, which he was auxious to supply for the building of new London bridge, at 1s. 9d. per cubic foot, although 4s. was the usual price.—Laid on the table.

On the motion of Mr. Robertson, accounts were ordered of the total number of ships built and registered in the ports of Great Britain in the years 1821, 1822, and 1823, together with accounts of their tonnage, the number of their crews, and the amount of their imports and exports during the same period.

On the motion of Mr. Curwen, an account was ordered of the drawback of 1s. per bushel on malt, allowed to the Scotch distillers, during last year.

Mr. Wallace brought up the report of the select committee on foreign trade, which was ordered

to be printed.

On the motion of Lord Althorp, the county courts' bill went through a committee, the report was received, and ordered to be taken in to farther consideration this day se'nnight.

Mr. W. Courtenay gave notice, that to-morrow he meant to submit a motion for the amendment and consolidation of the bankrupt

laws.

Mr. D. Browne moved the third reading of the Irish joint-tenancy bill.

Opposed by Mr. Hutchinson and Lord Milton.

The bill was then read a third time, and passed.

Sir John Newport, seeing the Secretary for Ireland in his place, wished to know whether it was the intention of the government to take cognizance of the report on their table, respecting the misapplication of public money by the corporation of Dublin?

Mr. Goulburn was not aware what particular report the right hodourable baronet alluded to; but if he referred to the local taxation report, it was the intention of the Irish government to take into consideration the whole question connected with that branch of the public expenditure.

Mr. Wilmot presented papers by order of the house respecting the island of Cuba.— They were

ordered to be printed.

Mr.

Mr. Huskirson moved the order of the day for a committee upon the silk manufacturers' bill.

Mr. F. Buxton wished to know why the committee was to be now pressed, when the understanding was, that the parties should be heard by counsel against the bill.

Mr. Huskisson replied, that it was desirable to have the bill committed this day, and the report received on Monday next. Counsel could be heard in a future stage of the measure.

The bill then went through a committee, and the report was ordered to be received on Monday

*Mr. Sukes* held in his band a petition, to which he begged to call the serious attention of all those who felt an interest in the maritime affairs of this kingdom. The petition was signed by upwards of one hundred ship-owners of the port of Hull, who represented property amounting to 200,000l. or 800,000l. sterling; they complained of a most intolerable grievance to which they were subject, contrary to the express principles of British law; fault of their own, or any knowledge of, or connivance at, a fault in others, their valuable property, consisting of shipping and stores, were liable to seizure and forfeiture. for the misconduct, however trivial, of those over whom they had not, and could not possibly have, any control. Their property was liable to scizure, if the smallest contraband article were secreted on board by any individual of the crew. He knew that in cases of very notorious hardship, the officers of the customs and excise sometimes consented to terms; but even

these, involving as they did legal costs, were so onerous as to impose a heavy grievance upon the innocent party who was the victim of them. He could have no objection to the punishment of the individual sailor who was guilty of the infraction of law; but why scize upon the property of the owner, who was ignorant of, and had no participation in, the offence? This petition set forth several heavy grievances of this nature. In one case 'the ship Minerva was seized because a hottle of foreign spirits, worth 12s., was found on board, which was proved to have been secreted by a poor sailor, who was to be married on his return. and who wanted to bring over this bottle for his marriage-feast. It was quite impossible that the legislature could tolerate the imposition of so severe a grievance as that to which ship-dwners were now exposed.

Mr. Herries said, that this had been already under the consideration of the Lords of the Treasury. who were of opinion that the revenue could not be adequately protected, unless there existed this they complained, that without any , mode of punishing an infraction of the laws enacted for its security, He thought the chance of any prevention of smuggling would be nugatory, if the penalty were to. be confined to some individual who might happen to sail on board the ship; but the lords of the Treasury were always ready to give the captain and owners an opportunity of showing their entire innocence of any participation in the offence. He begged to add, that steps were already taken, preliminary to a consolidation of the excise and customs laws: this was a comprehensive and tedious arrange-

ment.

ment, which he could not say would soon be completed; but during its progress the particular case stated by the petitioners could be fully considered.

The petition was read, and or-

dered to be printed.

Mr. Bright asked the Solicitor-General when he intended to introduce his insolvent bill?

The Solicitor-General said it was his intention to bring in the hill on

Friday next.

Mr. Buxton moved that the petitioners against the Spitalfields acts' repeal bill be heard by counsel on Monday next. - Ordered.

Mr. Hume presented a petition the shipwrights on the Thames, complaining of the state of the laws which prevented them from seeking employment in foreign countries, although they were unable to find any in this country. The honourable member presented a similar petition from the shipwrights in the dock-yards.

Sir B. Martin said, that there was no ground of complaint on the part of the men employed in the

dock-yards.

Mr. Littleton took that opportunity of asking the honourable member for Aberdeen to postpone the motion which stood on the paper for that evening, for the repeal of the laws which prevented the emigration of artisans, until next session. The subject was one of very great importance, and could not receive the consideration which it deserved.

Mr. S. Wortley, General Gascoune, Sir G. Cockburn, and Mr. Huskisson, stated that they concurred in the wish for postponement. The latter member added, that he was not unfriendly to the

object which the honourable member for Aberdeen had in view.

Mr. Hume then withdrew the notice of motion; at the same time expressing his intention of renewing it next session.

Mr. Brougham presented a petition, signed by upwards of two hundred and fifty freebolders of Sligo and its vicinity, who complained of an invasion of their rights of an ancient date. petitioners stated, that in the third year of the late King, an act was passed under the pretence of regulating the salmon-fishery in the county of Sligo, in which a clause was introduced conveying to A.B. the exclusive fee-simple right of fishing for five, miles along the banks of the river. The party to whoma this right was given had never before possessed a single inch of ground on the banks of the river. He had examined the act of Parliament, and found that the facts stated in the petition were correct.—The petition was ordered to be printed.

Mr. Abercromby brought forward his motion relating to Wm. Murray Borthwick. The bonourable member stated the case at length, and concluded by moving-" That the conduct and proceedings of the Lord Advocate of Scotland towards W. M. Borthwick, late printer at Hamilton, were unjust and op-

pressive."

The Lord Advocate replied.

Mr. J. P. Grant, Mr. H. Drume mond, Mr. Kennedy, Lord Binning, and Mr. M. A. Taylor, afterwards spoke, when the house divided-For the motion 96—against it 102.

Mr. Goulburn moved for leave to bring in a bill, for settling the compensation to the holders of

certain

certain offices in the courts of law in Ireland, abolished under the 1st and 2d George IV.—Leave given.

Lord Folkestone postponed his motion, relating to the equitable adjustment of contracts to the 11th.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the house adjourned.

House of Lords, June 4.—Viscount St. Vincent took the oaths and his seat.

A person from the office of the Commissioners of the Caledonian Canal, presented their twentieth report.

A person from the Court of Common Pleas presented returns from Lord Chief Justice Dallas, and the Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, pursuant to an order of the house.

A person from the Treasury presented certain returns relative to malt and barley.

The Earl of Donoughmore presented a petition from James Greig, clerk of the peace of the town and county of the town of Londonderry, against the grand jury presentment bill.

The bills on the table were forwarded one stage.—Adjourned till to-morrow.

House of Commons, June 4.— Lord Duncannon presented a petition from New Malden, against negro slavery.

On the motion of Mr. Hume, an humble address was ordered to be presented to his Majesty, praying that he would order an account to be laid before the house, showing the number of persons entered upon the sheriff's books to serve the duties of petty and special jurors during the last three years, and distinguishing those for the latter since the new qualifications

required by law; and that the above account should be made out alphabetically with the names of the jurors in London and Middlesex.

Mr. Hume presented a petition from the operative weavers in Arbroath and its vicinity, praying that no alteration should take place in the regulations for the stamping of Scotch linen.

Mr. Campbell presented petitions from the manufacturers of kelp, in the islands of Islay and Sky, against the repeal of the duty on barilla.

Mr. W. Courtenay obtained leave to bring in a bill for the amendment and consolidation of the bankrupt laws.

Mr. Kennedy moved the order of the day for the second reading of the Scotch transference of securities bill. The object of the bill had already been discussed, and its principle recognized. It was to render securities transferable from one creditor to another, without the heavy stamp duties which at present in Scotland attended that transfer.

The bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed on Friday.

Mr. Goulburn obtained leave to bring in a bill for the better administration of justice in the Court of Chancery in Ireland. The object of the bill was, he said, already sanctioned by the house: one of its arrangements was to put the Masters in Chancery in Ireland fixed on a salary of 800l. a year each, instead of the present practice of remunerating them by fees.

Lord Milton rose to present a petition from the merchants and manufacturers of Leeds, praying for a repeal of the duty on foreign wool.

Mr. Curwen thought the petitioners must make out a strong case before their claim could be admitted. They ought certainly to allow the free exportation of British wool, before the foreign duty was repealed.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, he could not object to the repeal of this tax, if a free exportation of British wool were con-

ceded.

Mr. Wodehouse considered the proposal fair for taking off this tax, and simultaneously permitting the

free export.

Mr. S. Wortley said, that little benefit would be derived from the free export, for the foreign manufacturer would not resort to this country for that which he might have on better terms in Saxony or Spain.—The pelition was laid on the table.

Lord Milton said, that he had a similar petition to present from Huddersfield. He said that he was aware the tax was looked upon as a source of revenue; but he also knew it was intended as a measure to silence the country gentlemen, and to render them less pertinacious in their demands for a diminution of other branches of taxation.

Mr. Huskisson hoped that it would be understood, that those who prayed for the repeal of the tax had it in their own power to effect its repeal. The only condition apon which the tax could be repealed, was the consent of the petitioners to the abolishment of laws against importations from foreign countries, some of which laws were a disgrace to the statute-book.

After a few words from Sir C. Burrell and Mr. Wortley, the petition was ordered to lie on the

table.

Mr. Dickinson presented a petition of a similar nature from the merchants and manufacturers of the county of Somerset.

Mr. H. Baring presented a petition from the silkweavers of Daventry, against the Spitalfields acts'

repeal bill.

Mr. Denison presented a petition from the churchwardens of eight parishes which he represents, praying that the qualification for a right of settlement in the county should be the payment of an annual rent of 201. instead of 101. as

at present.

Colonel Wood, in rising to propose certain resolutions relative to the law of settlement, hoped he should be excused for addressing a few observations to the house. With the act of the 43d of Elizabeth, which was the foundation of the poor laws, he had no familt to He believed that, if well administered, that act would be a blessing. But in the 43d of Elizabeth there was no mention of the law of settlement. It was in the 18th and 14th of Charles II. that the first acts passed which formed the foundation of the law of settle-Since that period, acts had continued to be passed to render it more and more difficult for a poor man to obtain a settlement in the place in which he had been resi-The situation of the poor under the existing laws was most pitiable. A man who had speas perhaps forty years in a parish where he had obtained employment, was liable, when he grew too old for labour, to be sent to a different part of the country, many hundred miles distant—to a parish where his father or his grandfather had resided, where he would be a perfect stranger among strumgers. His (Colonel Wood's) object

ject was to make residence the only qualification of settlement. He would have a residence of fifteen years a bar to removal. At the endof that time, counting from the present residence, for any time to be fixed, would be a sufficient settlement It might be said, that the giving a claim to exemption from removal by a certain residence, would be putting a settlement in every man's power; that might be; but his object was to raise the character of the poor man in his own estimation. The evils of the system of our poor laws had been of long growth. He would wish to see them gradually removed—to establish a better feeling amongst the poor --- to encourage societies amongst them; and, above all, todisseminate as widely as possible the advantages of early education. It might be asked what he would make the proof of residence? He would say, payment of poor's-rates -the renting of a house in a parish. for a certain time, or having one's family dwelling there; but it would. he thought, be better to leave this matter to be decided by the discretion of the magistrates. some amelioration in the system did not take place, the march of pauperism would go on, so as ultimately to absorb the whole property of the country. The hon. member then proceeded to cite authorities for the principle of his proposed alteration. The first was the report of a committee of that house, which sat in 1817, and after a most laborious and diligent investigation of the subject, recommended, that any person residing three years in one place, should not be liable to removal. He would put the time of residence at fifteen years from this time, to be lessened

year after year until the house, from experience of its effects, should fix the precise time which should establish an exemption from removal from thenceforth. The honourable member next cited the opinion of Mr. Colquhoun, and also that of Mr. Pitt, in 1796, to show, that from the nature of the law of settlement, as it then stood, and now stands, arose all the evils which were connected with the poor-laws Mr. Pitt went farther: for he held, that a poor man, instead of having a certain chim to parochial relief, ought, if he had a large family, to look for it as a matter of right, for that he who gave a number of children to the state, did it a benefit, for which he deserved protection and support. By such means a large family would become a blessing instead of a curse to a poor man. It would enable the state to look for the assistance of that family in time of need. To the assistance of her poor people, England was indebted for her great successes in the war: and there was no doubt that if they gave the people of England fair play, they would always stand by The hon, member concluded by moving the first of the resolutions -- " That the various provisions of the laws for the settlement of the poor have given rise to a course of expensive and embarrassing litigation." some conversation in which Lord Althorp, Mr. Scarlett, Mr. Peel, and other members took part,

Colonel Wood withdrew his resolations, and gave notice that tomorrow he would move for leave to bring in a bill upon the subject.

Mr. S. Rice, under the conviction that the discussion regarding the conduct of Chief Baron O'Grady,

which stood for to-night, could not come on till too late an hour, expressed his wish to lay the resolutions he intended to submit upon the table, that they might be printed, and that the debate might take place on Monday. He moved accordingly, that on Monday the house should resolve itself into a committee on the report of the commissioners on the emoluments, &c. of courts of justice, and on the judicial fees of the Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer in Ireland.

On the motion that the resolu-

tions be printed,

Mr. Canning expressed his doubts whether the premature printing of the resolutions would not operate as a degree of individual injustice.

Mr. S. Rice added, that his only object was to facilitate the discus-

sion.

It was then ordered that the resolutions do lie upon the table, open to the inspection of members.

Mr. J. Williams said, that if the object of his present motion was not novel or inviting, its importance was, he trusted, sufficient to attract It had been the deattention. clared opinion of a noble marquis, that evils existed in the Court of Chancery of no ordinary magnitude; and the hon member for Corfe Castle, that those evils and especially the long delays, amounted to a denial of justice. Those opinions were more especially true after the measures of the year 1813, which had not only utterly failed in its object, but had radically revolutionized the Court of It seemed acknow-Chancery. ledged on all hands that matters could not go on as at present, but that there must be some changesome improvement, it was to be.

hoped. He could not, therefore, imagine that any hon. gentleman would resist the appointment of a committee, when it was known not only that the amendment was required, but that there existed a variety of plans to remedy the evil, many of them deserving much consideration. He would take the liberty of calling the attention of the house to some of them. The first he should notice was that of separating the office of Chancellor from that of Prolocutor of the House of Lords. The second, to cut off from the jurisdiction of the Lord Chancellor, the whole business connected with bankruptcy. The third, to erect the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster into a distinct efficient officer, either by making a court of his own, or by transferring to him part of the business of Chancery. The fourth, the appointment of commissioners for the single purpose of hearing Scotch appeals. The fifth, that four judges should be appointed to undertake the whole of the equity business, while the Lord Chancellor only exercised an appellant jurisdiction. The sixth, that one or more of the present masters in Chancery should be appointed from time to time to decide causes by consent, to hear motions for time to plead, or for the payment of money into court, or for any others nearly amounting to matters of course. Such were some of the plans suggested, and he (Mr. Williams) professed himself utterly unable to decide which merited the preference: the house was unequal to the task without inquiry, and it had shown itself so ten years ago, when it was content to legislate in the dark, and upon the sudden, against all the wisdom of prediction, and all the weight of argument.

argument. To show that the measure of 1813 had failed, it was only necessary to know, first, that the necessity of a fresh inquiry was now admitted; and secondly, that the preamble of the very bill recited the identical grievances now pressing upon the house. He could not therefore suppose that any hon. gentleman would object to inquiry, excepting on the most singular of all grounds—that the house legislates the best when it understands the least. The question, to which he should more immediately address himself, and the question which he thought the true one for the consideration of the house was, whether the system of our equity jurisdiction was originally faulty in itself, or whether (and how far) it was the execution of that system which had failed. It would be his unpleasant duty, upon that question, to enter considerably into detail. With respect to the particular cases which be should cite in the course of his speech, he would state no facts but such as he believed he could fully establish before a com-He had admitted none mittee. without ample investigation, and had rejected none which had evidence to bear them out. " Neguid falsi dicere audeam," contended the honourable and learned gentleman. " nequid veri non audeam." It was notorious to every one who was conversant with the practice of the Court of Chancery, that the grand source of ruin to the suitor was the At the outset of a cause, it commonly happened that a partial hearing was obtained. The matter probably proceeded before the Chancellor up to a certain point, at which it was interrupted, perhaps, by the mere circumstance of his lordship's leaving the court: the whole then stood over for an

uncertain period: when it came on it was entirely forgotten, and the discussion had to re-commence de No small part of this exnovo. tended proceeding and delay had arisen out of the formation of the Vice-Chancellor's Court-a measure which had driven the Chancery practitioners (from their desire to obtain the assistance of particular counsel) into a course which might go near to bring them within the construction of the combination To the proof. A return had been laid last year upon the table of the house, showing the state of business in the Court of Chancery from the year 1801 to the beginning of the your 1822. One hundred and forty one causes were given (as the number in arrear) before the Chancellor at the time of creating the Vice-Chancellor's Court in 1813: the number of exceptions and farther directions in arrear was sixty-one; the pleas and demurrers were sixteen; the rehearings and appeals, forty-one. Nine years after, referring to the same account, it appeared that (the Vice-Chaucellor's Court all the while working) the arrear of business, inatead of diminishing, had gone on to accumulate: the causes in arrear were 161; the exceptions and farther directions 141: the pleas and demurrers 15; and the rehearings and appeals (in 1817) He (Mr. Williams) had now an account of the state of business in Chancery at the present time, and he found that the rehearings and appeals only in arrear were 135 in number, being a trifle less than the whole arrear of causes existing at the time when the Vice-Chancellor's Court was instituted. The truth was, that since the creation of the Vice-Chancellor's Court, suitors could not obtain the opinion

of the Lord Chancellor but in the way of rehearing an appeal. it was worth while to observe that whereas, in the discussion of last year, credit had been given to the Lord Chancellor for having, between the years 1813 and 1821, actually disposed, in the way of business, of 157 appeals, the fact really was, that, of the 157 appeals so disposed of, eighty-three had been merely struck out of the paper. leaving the number actually heard and decided—not 157, but seventy-He (Mr. Williams) could not too strongly press upon the recollection of the house that the great original business of the Court of Chancery was now regularly sent to the Vice-Chancellor. Since that desperate institution—the institution of the Vice-Chancellor's Court—the subject was actually deprived of his right—of his right to the opinion of the first law authority in the kingdom, unless he purchased that opinion at the expease of double delay and double The Lord Chancellor's paper at the present moment did not contain the term causes at all, Term causes, exceptions, and farther directions, pleas and demurrers, all these matters, except in especial cases, were handed over to the Vice-Chancellor; and the Lord Chancellor's paper was cut down from its original contents to mettern of petition, motion, and appeal. It appeared by documents in his (Mr. Williams's) hand, that from. the year 1818 to the year 1822, inclusive, the Lord Chancellor had only heard eighteen causes. appeared farther, that in the course of the last eight years the Vice-Chancellor (who had all the causes and other matters transferred to him) had disposed of as many mo-

tions as 14,560, while the Lord Chancellor, in the same period, had decided only 5155. were facts proved by the papers upon the table of the house. should now, however, come at once to the cases which he held in his hand. The first case on his list was the case of "Brown and De Tastet." Its circumstances ran thus: — A bill was filed to obtain an account. and, in 1812, the Master of the Rolls made a decree that an account should be taken. same year, 1812, the decree of the Master of the Rolls was appealed from; and that cause came to be heard before the Lord Chancellor late in the year 1821. This was not all. He complained not merely of delay; there were other considerations. In the course of the case there was a reference to the Master; and, from the report of the Master, there was an appeal to the Vice-Chancellor. The appeal from the Master's report, which cost (the report) not less than 500l, and which the house would presently see was quite unnecessary. and that the 500l might as well and better have been thrown into the kennel—that appeal came on to be heard in the year 1816. The Vice-Chancellor set aside the Manter's report: and then there was an appeal from the Vice-Chancellor to the Chancellor, against his decree setting that report aside. He now came for a moment to the bill of costs—a matter of some weight in such proceedings—and he should show the house a little of the interior of a Chancery suit. In the first place it was to be understood that, from the time of filing a bill the solicitor became entitled to what was called his "term fees"—that was 11. 1s. 8d, each term, so long

as the cause lasted, which, according to Hudibras, was just so long as the client had any money. Then from the time that a cause got, as it was termed, into " the paper," the solicitor and the clerk in court were entitled to 1/. a day, attendances. Now, in the said cause of Brown and De Tastet, the "term fees" began in the year 1812, and went on to the beginning of the year 1819; in January 1819, both the appeals (that from the Master of the Rolls, and that from the Vice-Chancellor) got into the Lord Chancellor's "paper," and continued there, off and on, through the year 1820 to the end of the year 1821; the amount of " attendances" zharged in that cause being no less a sum than 450l. was this by any means all. The learned counsel at the bar found it impossible to endure the fatigues of such a cause without an adequate allowance from time to time of "refreshers." Upon those refreshers the learned barristers did manage to maintain their strength; but, for the unfortunate suitor, what "refresher" was there for him? Alas! none. He wandered on over a dreary waste, barren and parched on every eide:--there was no green bright spot for his eye to rest upon; and what was worse, he saw as little limit to the desert as likelihood of finding a read out of it. Leaving the case of "Brown and De Tastet," however, he would come to the second cause upon his paper. This was the case of "Oldham and It. was a bill filed for a debt elaimed to be due to a legatee. The bill was filed in the year 1815 and the answer was put in in 1816. In that answer, the trustee, against whom the bill was filed, admitted the possession of assets to the extent of 12004; but the answer was not deemed satisfactory, because it did not give reasons why he had not a larger fund. In 1816, the answer?was excepted to: and the exceptions were allowed. house would observe that the knotty point in debute-a point worthy of Simonides himself—was, whether the trustee had given reasons for his fund in hand not being larger; upon that point, since the year 1816, there had been sixtyfour "attendances;" and even at the present moment it was not deeided. Take next the case of ". Whitchurch and Holworthy." This was a bill filed in 1811, to restrain a lord of a manor from cutting down timber. An injunction was obtained in the first instance; and a special case was made for the Court of King's Bench. In the year 1815 that special case was answered, and the certificate sent to the Court of Chancery. During 1816, 1817, 1818, and 1819, it lay in the book of the registrar, and never got into the Lord Chancellor's "paper" at all. In the year 1820, it was sent to the Vice-Chancellor; no sooner did it get there, than it was sent back to the Lord Chancellor: there were "attendances" running on upon it in the years 1821 and 1822; and up to the present hour it was not decided. The next case to which he would advert was the ease of "Fillingham and Plumley." In that case the bill was filed for specific performance of a contract, There was a decree by the Vice-Chancellor, which was appealed from to the Chancellor. The Chancellor, on hearing the cause, expressed his opinion in favour of the defendant, but refused at once to give his judgment. Now he (Mr. Williams)

Williams) was credibly informed that, from the great learning and acute perception of the Lord Chancellor, it seldom if ever happened that he gave an opinion on the outset of a case which was not a right one: but, unfortunately, the judicial expression of that opinion was often delayed to a degree which materially weakened its value. In the case of "Fillingham and Plumley," the cause remained until the year 1822, without one single step being taken in it. In the last case but one to which he should refer, the case of ". Powell v. Sergeant and others," the bill had been filed in the year 1812; and the cause had ended nine years after, in the year 1821. During the whole of that period, of course, the term fees were going on. There was a demurrer to the bill, raising simply the question how far Sergeant, one of the defendants, was properly a party to the cause. The decision of that preliminary question, which might have been settled in half an hour, had kept the cause lingering for no less than five years; and it had cost the parties just eighty "attendances." There was one more case, and only one, with which he would try the patience of the house; and that was a case as to which he had in his possession It was the the original papers. case of "Ware and Horwood." In the case of "Ware and Horwood," which had enjoyed the advantage of having a supplemental bill, and a bill of reviver attached to it, a decree had been made by the Lord Chancellor in the year 1821. An objection was started to that decree, that it had been obtained surreptitiously, and to the exclusion of one party in the cause.

·Upon that ground (the sarreptitious obtaining) a motion was made: and he (Mr. Williams) held in his hand an affidavit from the party who showed cause against that motion, some passages of which were worth the attention of hon. members. The deponent said, "that owing to other causes being daily placed at the head of the Lord-Chancellor's "paper," either "for judgment" or " to be spoken to," and owing to the length of "the seal," and to the number of motions made, he (the deponent) had found it impossible to obtain the Lord Chancellor's decision upon his cause; and that having bitter complaints made to him by his clients for delay, and finding that the cause had not been placed in the Lord Chancellor's "paper," according to the Lord Chancellor's order; -- finding these things, he had been induced, on the 15th of July, to write a letter to the Lord Chancellor to the following effect: - "Ware and Horwood. - My Lord,—My clients have reason to complain of the injury they suffer by their causes not keeping their situation at the head of your lordship's paper. Those causes have been seven years waiting for judgment; they were at the top of your lordship's paper two years and a half ago; and I wish they could remain there until they are decided: 10,000*l*. is locked up, my lord, in court until these causes are settled. It is painful for me to add, that I have learned that the infant for whose benefit the original suit in these causes was instituted twenty years ago has died of a broken heart in consequence of the distressed condition of his affairs; and I have to contend, in all delays now, against the bitter feeling of

his relations." The affidavit which he held, deposed that the Lord Chancellor had, in consequence, given immediate direction to have the case reinstated in its former position on the paper; that the case was accordingly brought on speedily for hearing, and the deponent was thereupon required to attend in his lordship's private room, which he accordingly did, and held frequent conversations as to the subject of drawing up the decree, after judgment given in the court. He had procured the office copy of the bill of costs put in by the solicitor who made this affidavit: he would submit the facts without any comments of his own. only premising that the opposite parties had been led to suspect, and were informed of the fact subsequently, of these repeated audiences, had of the Chancellor by one solicitor in the absence of the other solicitors in the suit, by the items in this bill. It began with charges for attendance, agreeably to the order of the court. Then the letter was charged in these terms-" for writing a long letter to his lordship, on the subject of the cause, and importuning particular attention to it, 9s. 6d.: attending the court to get the cause reinstated on the paper, 19s. 4d.; attending the court at the time of hearing the petition, 21." &c. happened well for this felicitous man that he was solicitor also for one of the defendants in the cause. That which had been denied to the wishes of the historian—the power of a divisible identity—had been kindly imparted by Chancery to solicitor Dowling, against the manifest law of nature. He was engbled to represent several individuals in different places at the same juncture of time, though possessing but one personal identity. cordingly, each of the items was accompanied with a corresponding fee for attendance upon the original cause for the other side. One of these items would be almost incredible to the house-" Attending the Lord Chancellor in his private room, when his lordship begged farther indulgence till tomorrow." There were repeated charges for attendance in his lordship's private room concerning the decree, in which a great variety of observations were made by his lordship as to the terms of it; the same fee being invariably charged for attendance in the original cause. Having stated the nature and quality of the attendances (which consisted of little more than fixing the times of postponement, and latterly trifling alterations in the terms of the decree) he had now only to state the gross charge for them in the bill. The sum was no less in amount than 1000l. for these attendances alone. Upon the circumstance of this solicitor attending the private room of the court, without any other solicitor in the cause being present, he would say nothing, but leave it to the reflections of those who heard him. But what must be the sense of that great, nent, and powerful magistrate. as to the justice due to the parties, that he should have endured the writing of a letter to him in term upon a case depending? Not only so, but that he should. to a suitor of his court, or as the phrase of another jurisdiction was, an orator to this process, pray for farther delay, and entreat that the time until the morrow should

should be allowed bim for preparation. - that he should endure in any man the audacity of writing to him, the highest magistrate and subject in the state, to importune him for his particular and partial attention to the case of one suitor in a cause? These things he must leave to the consideration of the house, without a single comment of his own. It was his duty next to advert to the condition of the only other two courts from which any relief could be given in equity to the claims of suitors, to see if in them also the accumulation of business was of such a kind as to come powerfully in aid of his conclusion - that inquiry should be made into the causes of the delay. It was remarked by the late Lord Londonderry, in 1818, that the Court of Exchequer was the only court in Westminster-hall able to relieve in point of equity from the decisions of the higher courts.— What he was about to state he did not intend as an imputation, he considered it only as a misfortune to the individual whom he was about to name. Early in autumn, after the return of the professional gentlemen from circuit, the bealth of the Lord Chief Baron was known to be impaired, and that illness had been considerably increasing since. The Chief Baron had the power to sit apart from the bench at which he presided, to determine questions in equity. When this branch of the exchequer business became thus interrupted, it should have devolved to the senior baron, who was a most respectable and able gentleman: but time must do its work - this excellent man was eighty-one years old. It would be unreasonable to require the despatch of extraordinary business from that

honourable and aged person. The next in semiority was Baron Gasrow, who, from unavoidable circumstances, had been absent from the court since February lust; but had he been present, expert and justly renowned as he was in his knowledge of common law, it would be praise most absurd, unworthy, and incredible to say of him that his *forte* lay in equity trials. The junior baron was a respectable friend of his, of intelligence and ability altogether unquestionable: but he was fresh in the court. and it would be indecorous to thrust him over the heads of two others, to give judgment in this separate branch of the jurisdiction. Such was the condition of that court, upon which he would refrain from any farther remarks, excepting thisthat he was not certain but that other causes, well worthy of the consideration of the house, though he would not stop to specify them, might contribute towards effecting the delay of justice. There was another court, besides that of the Vice-Chancellor, which might be considered the legitimate handmaid of equity. Between this court and Chancery there was no collision of practice. They sat at different times, and without any confusion of business—whatever was done in this lesser jurisdiction must be a clear gain—it did really as aist in ridding that accumulation of causes, which no learning, no ability, no perseverance could work through. But he had this to state respecting the Rolls-Court, that between the time of Sir W. Grant sitting there and that of the present master, there was a very considerable difference; insomuch that he had been informed

informed by practitioners that there was a falling off in the efficient business of the court-some alleging that one-fourth, others not one-tenth part of the business was performed now, compared with the times of Sir W. Grant. Of that excellent judge, he could not presume to speak in terms of sufficient praise. The patience be exercised in examining, was no less than his firmness and promptitude in decision. But one feature in his conduct, which proved the excellence of his mind, was this-that he did not wait till years had manifested to all men the infirmities which he knew would overtake him. He retired with all his honours fresh and blooming upon him, at a time when no one suspected in him even the approach of decay. By that departure, as much as by the excellence of his judicial conduct in examining, and his prompt decisions, he had set a bright example to his brethren on all the benches, which those among them who valued the real honour of their employments would gladly fellow. These accumulations in the Courts of Exchequer and the Rolls suggested additional reasons for carrying the motion, which he had to propose, into effect. In the Exchequer Court there was an arrear of 170 causes at the end of the term. The late Chief Baron bad sat and very assiduously discharged the business of equity, and the consequence was, that from the firmness of his decisions and the despatch together, a great portion of the causes died a natural death, and dropped out of the paper. He next directed the attention of the house to the jurisdiction of appeals, which formed a joint ground for going into the inquiry sought by

his motion. He began with the case of Scotch appeals, of which it appeared that there were, between 1813 and 1823, the following numbers:-291 heard: 145 affirmed; 62 reversed; 80 remitted to the courts for consideration on fresh facts; two altered. Upon the total, it appeared that the number of these appeals, compared with appeals from the English courts, was as five to one. It might form a very proper subject for inquiry in the committee, if the constitution and appointments in the courts which furnished so strange an accumulation of appeals from their jurisdiction, had not some defects which contributed to this The fact that the numbers result. affirmed to those reversed, or sent back on some ground or other, were as 145 to 144, gave considerable force to that suggestion. He had said that he would reserve the department of the Vice-Chancellor for a separate consideration. The question respecting that jurisdiction was before the house in 1813; and he believed that no gentleman who had the recollection of the debate on his mind, together with the subsequent experience upon it, would now advise waiting for the decision of the other house, or recommend the Commons again to guide their decisions by the wisdom of that body. The bill for the erection of the Vice-Chancela lor's court was introduced into the house by the late Marquis of Londonderry. It was opposed by the powerful talents and piercing wit of the right honourable secretary opposite, who exerted himself to the utmost to explode it from the table. The right hop. gent. had very truly prognosticated that it would turn out to be a bill for causing

causing all causes in Chancery to be heard twice over. The late Sir S. Romilly had opposed it, with the force of his profound wisdom; he said that the true title of the bill was "A bill to give the Lord Chancellor leisure, and to give the suitors the right of appeal in his lordship's court." The present Vice-Chancellor, much to his henour, had given his strongest opposition to it. The arguments and too prophetic predictions of these great persons were all in vain. The house legislated on suggestions furnished from the other house: they did indeed legislate, but it was only to legislate again upon the effects of their own error. To that bill there was this distinct and unanswerable objection—that it had fuiled in the object for which it was proposed, and had produced incalculable mischief. The result which he offered, from all that he had advanced, was this:-If the house could not at the time reach to that prophetic and prescient knowledge which had been displayed by the right hon. gentleman, by his late lamented friend, and by the Vice-Chancellor, at least let them claim that every-day sort of wisdom, that homely intelligence, which would prevent them from falling into the unpitied situation of being caught in the same snare —not to legislate on the knowledge of others, and without taking any light from the experience within their reach to guide them. strongly defended the necessity of investigating the evil, and discovering the remedy in a com-He bad now mittee of the house. discharged his duty to the best of his ability, having refrained, as much as the subject would allow. from any statements likely to be

injurious to the feelings of any parties, and without disguising those circumstances which it was material for the house to know. He then moved—" That a select committee be appointed to inquire into the arrears of cases in the Court of Chancery and the appellant jurisdictions, and also to inquire into causes of the arrears, and to report thereon to the house."

The Attorney-General, adverting to the promises given by his hon. and learned friend in the introduction, felt rather disappointed at finding that he rested his case almost entirely on a personal attack against the chief magistrate and justice in the land. He disowned the knowledge of any measures of the nature hinted at by his hon. friend in the upper house. arrangement about to take effect for despatch in Scotch appeals was a measure by no means of the character surmised by his hon. friend. He would prove to the house that there was no ground for the motion—that there was no arrear of business of the nature described by his hon. friend, and that the erection of the Vice-Chancellor's court had not caused an accumulation of business. That there was an increase of business. he admitted, because there was an increase of population, an increase of wealth, and a consequent increase of litigation. He objected to the attacks upon the judges of the land, which at least ought to have been preceded by such a notice as would have given them the opportunity for preparing their friends with information for their defence. He then proceeded to show the errors in the calculations made by his honourable friend in regard to the number of cases decided

cided in the Court of Chancery. He had heard his honourable friend say nothing of the lunatic petitions, of the motions, or of the business in bankruptcies. (Mr. Williams said he had mentioned the motions.) But his honourable friend had said nothing whatever of lunatic petitions. How stood the fact? Lord Hardwicke, in ten years, had decided on 484 lunatic petitions. The present Lord Chancellor, in ten years, had decided 2450 lunatic petitions. Were these to be considered matters of course? (Mr. Williams said they would become so.) His honourable friend thought that lunatic petitions might become matters of course. If that were really his opinion, be could know little of the subject of lunacy, which involved some of the most intricate considerations of law; and, as he was reminded by his honourable and learned friend near him, were the more scrupulously attended to by the Chancellor, because in those cases there was no appeal from his judgment. He was somewhat surprised that his honourable and learned friend had never once adverted to the subject of bankrupt petitions. Some of these were decided by the Vice-Chancellor, but all those which were of importance were heard and decided by the Lord Chancellor. He should now proceed to state the quantity of business which had been done in the courts, and would leave the house to say whether the attack which had been made upon the Lord Chancellor for his delay in the decision of cases was justifiable or not? In the year 1820 the Lord Chancellor heard 136 bankrupt petitions, and the Vice-Chancellor 336. In 1821 the Lord Chancellor

heard 103, and the Vice-Chancellor 449. Up to Easter-term, 1823, the Lord Chancellor heard 164, Vice-Chancellor 465. and the From the year 1813 to the present period, 5820 bankrupt petitions had been disposed of, and of these the greater part had been heard before the Lord Chancellor. When his honourable and learned friend stated that these petitions were twice heard, he was mistaken; because it was only when cases were of high importance, and the parties had reason to be dissatisfied with the decision of the Vice-Chancellor, that they went before the Lord Chancellor. The case of Howard and Gibbs, to take a recent example, was one of those to which be alluded. This case alone had occupied many days. When, therefore, the number of cases disposed of by the Lord Chancellor was spoken of, it should not be taken numerically, but with a reference to the intricacy and the number of points which the cases involved, and which of course required more discussion and deliberation than cases of an ordinary description. It had been said that the introduction of the Vice-Chancellor's Court had only had the effect of making causes to be heard twice: this objection might be applied also to the Rolls. The law had provided, wisely he thought, that the subject should have this right: the same principle applied to the appeals in the House of Lords; and if it should ever be taken away, the consequence would be, that the table of the house must groan under petitions. An objection had been made to the practice of appeals to the House of Lords, because they were, in point of fact, only appeals from the Lord Chancellor

cellor in one place to the Lord Chancellor in another; but this was rather asserted than proved. A case had happened, even during the present session, which would show that this was by no means the case. Sir W. Grant, the late Master of the Rolls, having decided upon a cause in which an appeal had afterwards been lodged in the Lord Chancellor's Court, the Chancellor decided in favour of the Master's decree; and yet, upon a further appeal to the House of Lords, their lordships reversed both those decisions. It could not, therefore, be said that the subject had no redress by an appeal to the House of Lords. Since the establishment of the Vice-Chancellor's Court, 2832 causes had been heard Did his bon, and learned friend mean to say that all these had been heard again by the Lord Chancellor, and that the Vice-Chancellor was a mere steppingstone to the Lord Chancellor? That the number of appeals had increased was quite true; but the cause was, that the business had Was it no relief to the increased. suitors that nearly 3000 causes had been heard by the Vice-Chancellor since 1813, which could not have been heard by any other means? It was not for him (the Attorney-General) to panegyrize the noble and learned lord who had been spoken of; that would be equally useless and unnecessary on the present occasion; but he would say that no man could have proceeded with more despatch than he had done. He had heard in the course of ten years 1850 exceptions and further directions, 475 pleas and demurrers, 2987 peti- in 1810, 1793; in 1822, 2489; The tions, and 16,000 motions. house would not say the Lord

Chancellor had been idle, when they learnt that for the ten years the Lord Chancellor had upon an average disposed of 150 bankrupt petitions, 250 lunatic petitions, 580 motions, 450 cause petitions, and 47 causes and appeals. When he talked of motions, he would not have it supposed that they were motions of course. spoke in the hearing of many persons who practised in the court, and they would bear him out when he said that many of these motions went to decide the fate of the cause. In injunctions the whole merit of the case was decided upon motion. The same observation. too, would apply to petitions. petitions, by way of appeal from Rolls or Vice-Chancellor's Court, the whole merits of the cause were in discussion, and a decision often pronounced upon the petition. He trusted this statement would satisfy the house that the Vice-Chancellor's Court had operated greatly to the relief of the suitor, while the option of appeal was satisfactory and useful when parties were dissatisfied with the decision of their causes. and learned friend said that the business of the Court of Chancery was formerly well conducted by one judge; but he had not stated in what proportion the business had increased since the period to which he referred. If he had said that the arrears were then as much in amount as was now disposed of by the Vice-Chancellor, he would not have been far wrong. The increase in the number of bills filed would best show this. In 1801 there were filed 1445; in 1805, 1531; and in the last year there had been already 1058. His honourable and

learned friend, being, as he trusted he had shown, not borne out in his statement that the Vice-Chancellor's Court was of no use, had endeavoured by mentioning certain causes to make out the charge of Feeling that a graver or delay. more important topic could not be submitted to the house, he should proceed to notice some of these. The first was that of " Brown and De Tastet," which had been originally determined by the Master of the Rolls. It would be in vain to attempt to detail the particulars of the case; but he would state that the expenses of a reference to the Master, which upon the hearing of the appeal the Chancellor had directed, amounted to 500l., while the result of that reference fixed Mr. De Tastet with the payment of 63,000l. To this report, which had been made with great care and ability by Master Stephen, Mr. De Tastet had, in the language of the Court of Chancery, excepted; the Vice-Chancellor's decision upon these exceptions was appealed against, and ultimately the Lord Chancellor had sent the accounts again to another Master, the honourable member for Exeter (Mr. Courtenay). The cause of "Fillingham and Bromley," it was said, had been hung up many years; but this was the fault of the suitors, not of the Chancellor. Though he (the Attorney-General) was not in the cause of "Whitchurch and Holworthy," he happened to be acquainted with the particulars of it, and he knew that it involved many conflicting decisions, and was one of great nicety. The question was, whether the lord of a copyhold manor had a right to cut timber on the estates of tenants holding for life? The house would see that this was a question of importance. Lord Holt had pronounced a decision in the Court of King's Bench, the validity of which the Lord Chancellor doubted. The case of "Powel and Sergeant" was one of a demurrer, and the house must remember that a demurrer in Chancery was very different from a demurrer in a court of law: in the former it tried the right of the plaintiff to relief. "Ware and Horwood" was a case which had been often heard of before; and if his learned friend wished to amuse himself by diving into equity reports, he could furnish him with two or three hours' reading of the reports of this case. His learned friend had objected to the charges of attorneys for attending the courts when they were there on other business; but he would ask him whether this was not the usual practice in the profession, and whether atturneys who had more causes than one at the assizes, did not always charge for each of them? His learned friend had stated that the bill for attendances alone amounted to 1000% So far from this being the fact, the whole bill was only 1000%, and the charge for attendances allowed by the master amounted to little more than 100%. The total sum taxed and allowed was only 561%. Another charge had been made against the Lord Chancellor, of having pronounced a decree at the instigation of one party, behind the back, and without proper intimation, of the other. He knew well the practice of the Lord Chancellor in cases of such importance: it was his custom to hand out the minutes of the decree for the information of the parties, before he pronounced it; and he had no doubt

doubt he had done so in this case. The noble and learned lord wanted no justification; no man could impeach the integrity with which he discharged his important office; and this was the first time that he (the Attorney-General) had ever heard it insinuated that his lordship's conduct, in or out of court, was open to distrust. His learned friend, not content with the attack which he had made upon the Court of Chancery, had extended it also to the Court of Exchequer. It was true, that the Lord Chief Baron having been afflicted with a severe illness, at the end of Michaelmas-term, had been compelled to absent himself from his court; but he had since resumed his duties, and had discharged his duties during the whole of the last term. Would it be said, then, that the temporary illness of one of the judges had caused any serious delay to the suitors? Some allusion had also been made to the age and infirmities of another learned person, who had retired; but it should be recollected, that neither had prevented him from the discharge of his function. It had been objected, that the Barons Garrow and Hullock, not being equity lawyers, were unfit to decide upon causes in the Exchequer; but it must be remembered that it was a court of law as well as of equity, and that it had always been usual to have two judges versed in each of those points. The ill health of the Muster of the Rolls was certainly a very painful subject; but his learned friend could not state that as any public ground upon which his motion should be recommended. The subject of appeals was now under the consideration of the House of Lords. As to the Scotch

appeals, he would venture to say, there never was a time when they had been more properly and satisfactorily heard. Whatever cause, however, there might be for inquiry into the number of Scotch appeals, and the way in which they were heard, that could have nothing to do with the Vice-Chancellor's Court. The increase of business in 1815 showed that his learned friend was mistaken in his opinion. It was felt that no single judge was competent to discharge the duty which devolved on the Court of Chancery; and, in consequence, the Vice-Chancellor's Court was established in But his 1812. learned friend had argued, that the business of the suitors was so much delayed, as to render an inquiry necessary. But how stood the fact? Why, the causes now set down for hearing were only of the date of the last, or of the preceding term. His learned friend had wholly failed in showing that there was a culpable arrear of business; and, therefore, he had failed in establishing a just ground for an inquiry. In the course of his speech, his learned friend had argued, that no measure, with respect to Scotch appeals, ought to be received in that house, without a previous inquiry: but would it not be better if he waited for the result of the inquiry in the other bouse, before he urged that point? There was an inquiry going on there, with respect to Scotch appeals; and it must be allowed that that was the most proper place for proceeding with such an inquiry. When this was the case, when the other house had determined to examine the subject, surely an inquiry of the nature suggested by his learned friend would be introduced a little unnecessarily

necessarily into the House of Commons. If his learned friend wished, in bringing forward this motion, to state his opinion of the noble person at the head of the Court of Chancery, an opportunity for doing so had been afforded to him; and beyond all question he had taken ample advantage of it. He, however, viewed the exertions of that noble person in a light very different from that of his learned friend. He was convinced that the Lord . Chancellor had done as much business as could possibly be expected from any man. Observing no arrear that might not fairly be expected-knowing, as he did, that the subject of Scotch appeals, which had been scarcely adverted to by his learned friend, was a matter of inquiry in the other house, he objected to this motion as unnecessary, and he would ait down determined to oppose it altogether.

Mr. M. A. Taylor and Mr. Denman afterwards supported the motion. Mr. H. G. Bennet proposed to adjourn the debate till Friday, which was negatived by 133 against 49. Mr. Denman moved that it be adjourned until to-morrow, which

was agreed to.

The other orders of the day were disposed of, and the house

adjourned.

House of Lords, June 5.—A person from the court of Great Session in Wales presented returns of the number of prisoners tried from 1812 to 1823, the number of attornies practising, the number of causes tried, and the number of bills filed in Chancery during the same period.

The house went into the farther consideration of the report on the marriage law amendment bill, and

1823.

several verbal amendments were

proposed and agreed to.

The Marquis of Lansdown said, he took the present opportunity of placing on their lordships' table a bill, the object of which was to afford relief to dissenters from the church of England in respect to the solemnization of their marriages. He therefore moved that the bill be now read a first time and be printed, and read a second time this day se'nnight.

The bill was accordingly read the first time, and ordered to be

printed.

The noble marquis also gave notice, that on Monday next he should move the second reading of the Irish grand jury presentment

bill.

The Earl of Donoughmore observed, that this was a subject of great importance, which had been before their lordships last session, but the bill then proposed did not meet their approbation; as he had taken part in the discussions on that bill, he should take the opportunity, on the second reading, of stating how far the present bill differed from that, and what part remained as objectionable as the original measure.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, June 5.—
(In the motion of Sir N. Colthurst, the Irish election bill went
through a committee, and the report was ordered to be received

to-morrow.

Mr. Dawson brought in the metropolis gas regulation bill, which was read a first time, and ordered for a second reading on Monday next.

Mr. V. Fitzgerald presented a petition from the freeholders of the county of Clare, praying for the favourable

favourable attention of the legislature to the linen manufacture of Ireland: they also prayed for a national premium on the growth of flax.

On the motion of Colonel Wood, leave was given to bring in a bill to amend the laws relating to the

settlement of the poor.

On the motion of Sir G. Cockburn, the London-bridge bill went through a committee, and the report was ordered to be received to-morrow.

Mr. Littleton presented a petition from Stafford, in favour of the establishment of courts for the more easy recovery of small debts.

Mr. Curteis presented a petition from certain owners and occupiers of land near Lewes, in the county of Sussex, praying for a repeal of a proportion of the malt duty.

Lord Cranborne wished to know whether there would be any objection to the committal of the sale of game bill; those who meant to eppose the bill could do so on a future day.

Mr. Brougham saw no objection to the course proposed, although he would say that the modifications must be considerable which could reconcile him to the measure.

The bill was then committed pro forma, and the report ordered to be taken into farther consideration on

Monday next.

On the motion of Mr. Herries, the brimstone drawback act went through a committee, and report was ordered to be received to-morrow.

On the motion of Mr. Goulburn, the Irish Court of Chancery bill went through a committee, and the report was ordered to be received to-morrow.

Mr. Hutchinson intimated his

intention of calling the attention of the house, to-morrow, to the necessity of increasing the funds in the hands of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, for carrying on public works. It was of the first importance, in the present state of Ireland, that all possible means should be furnished for the employment of the labouring classes, who were at present exposed to great distress.

Mr. Abercromby presented a petition from the householders of Inverness, in favour of the trial by jury bill in Scotland, now be-.

fore the house.

Mr. Benett presented a petition from Robert Gourlay, and other persons in Wiltshire, complaining of the distressed situation of the peasantry, and the impossibility of their educating their children.

On the motion of Mr. Ricardo, accounts were ordered of the number of men employed on board the East India and China ships which entered the port of London within the last two years, specifying the tonnage of the shipping, and the number of the crews who were Lascars.

On the motion of Mr. Herries, an estimate was ordered of the expense of building the Menai bridge.

On the motion of Mr. Herries, the post-horse farming duty bill went through a committee, and the report was ordered to be received to-morrow.

Mr. Denman presented a petition from certain stage-coach owners against the clause in the bill for legalizing the sale of game, which provides that stage-coach owners should make entries of the game which they carried, or they would render themselves liable to inspec-

Mr. Dennison presented a petition from several merchants and importers of barilla. The honourable member stated, that previously to the last session, the duty on the importation of barilla had been 11% per ton., but last session an act was passed which reduced the duty to 5t. 5s. The kelp manufacturers of Scotland had sent a memorial to the Treasury, praying that the duty might be raised again, and he was sorry to understand that the Treasury was inclined to lend a favourable ear to the request. The petitioners prayed that the question might be referred to a committee, to inquire whether it was expedient to raise the present duty on barilla.

On the motion of Mr. Denman, the order of the day for resuming the adjourned debate on Mr. Williams's motion for a "select committee to inquire into the arrear of business in the Court of Chancery, and the appellant jurisdiction of the House of Lords, and the causes

thereof," was read-

The motion was again read from the chair, and no member immediately presenting himself to speak, strengers were ordered to withdraw, when

Mr. Denman rose. He could sot, he said, in any degree regret the course which he had adopted last night in supporting the adjournment of the question till this day, in order that the subject might be fully gone into before the house came to a decision upon it. He was satisfied that if they decided before farther and better information was given than had been afforded last night in the speeches of hon- gentlemen opposite, it would afford a just cause of very general To bim discontent in the country.

it appeared that the perspicuous statements of his hon, and learned friend (Mr. J. Williams) who made the motion, were by no means satisfactorily answered by the speech of the Atterney-general; but even assuming that the hon, and learned gentleman (the Attorney-general) had given a satisfactory explanation of the case, there were still unanswered the additional and important facts contained in the speech of the hon member for Durham (Mr. M. A. Taylor), who had given so much of his attention to this important subject --- who had so often moved for committees of inquiry into it, and who had witnessed the tricks and stratagems by which his object had been defeated. The additional facts stated by his hon. friend, he repeated, called for an answer from hon, gentlemen opposite, and particularly as they erroneously seemed to think that the statements made on his (Mr. Denman's) side of the house implicated the personal as well as judicial character of the Lord Chancellor. The hon, member then went into a detail of other cases, and spoke at great length in support of the motion.

Mr. W. Courtenay opposed it. Mr. Abercromby spoke in favour of the motion, as did also Mr. Scarlett and Mr. Broughant.

Mr. Wetherell and the Solicitor General spoke on the other side,

When the house divided:—For the motion, 89—Against it, 174.

The other orders of the day were disposed of, and the house adjourned at half-past two o'clock.

House of Lords, June 6.—A person from the East India House presented the return of pensions granted by the Company; also an account of the annual revenues

of the several Presidencies India.

Mr. P. Moore, accompanied by other members of the House of Commons, brought up the metropolis gas light regulation bill.

Viscount Granville presented a petition from the manufacturers of various towns in Staffordshire. praying for a more speedy mode of

recovering small debts.

The Earl of Donoughmore presented a petition from the clerks of the peace of Cavan, Galway, Kilkenny, Tyrone, Westmeath, and other places (ten in the whole), against the Irish Grand Jury presentment bill.

The masters and apprentices' bill went through a committee, and was reported with amendments.-

Adjoured.

House of Commons, June 6.-Mr. Curwen presented a petition from Cumberland, complaining of agricultural distress, and recommending to the attention of the legislature, the propriety, by some regulation respecting Irish and Scotch spirits, of encouraging a greater consumption of barley, which. while it repressed smuggling, and the consumption of foreign spirits, would assist the internal commerce of the country.

Mr. Blackburne presented two petitions from the innkeepers and publicans of Manchester and Salford, against the insolvent debtors' act, and the beer duties bill.

On the motion of Mr. Kennedy, the Scotch transference of securities bill went through a committee. -The report on Monday.

On the motion of the Lord Adrocate of Scotland, the Scotch confirmations and commissaries bills were severally committed.—The reports on Monday.

Mr. Brogden brought up the report of the London-bridge advance of money bill.

Mr. Hume inquired whether the 150,000l. which was to be advanced for new London-bridge, was intended as a gift or a loan?

Mr. Brogden replied, that it was intended not as a loan, but as an advance, upon the same principle as other advances of the public money for carrying on national works of

general utility.

Mr. Hume said, that if the principle were once recognized for London-bridge, he could not see what objection could be made to a similar claim for bridges in other

parts of the country.

Mr. Alderman Wood said that the new bridge was not alone for the benefit of the city of London, but of the country at large-even the constituents of his hon. friend would benefit by it, in the improved condition of the navigation of the He begged his hon. friend to recollect that this money was not to be paid at once—the first advance was not to exceed 10,000/. and the subsequent advances were to be 20,000L a-year, for seven years. The corporation of London were to contribute all in their power, and they could do no more—they were to give nearly 200,000l. which was in their hands, and to raise 400,000l. more by mortgage.

Mr. H. Sumner said that the advance must necessarily be in the form of a contribution, and not of The corporation, as had been already said, were willing to go as far as their funds permitted, and nobody could deny either the necessity of the work, or its ge-

neral advantage.

Mr. Ricardo concurred with his

hon.

bon friend (Mr. Hume) in thinking that some arrangement should be made for the repayment at least of the interest of the proposed advances.

After a few words from Mr. Curwen, the report was received, and the resolution for the proposed advance agreed to.

The reports of the brimstone drawback duty, and assessed taxes composition bills, were received and agreed to.

Sir J. Newport gave notice, that on Tuesday next he meant to move for certain papers respecting the church rates of Ireland, for the purpose of founding a motion upon them early in the ensuing session.

Mr. Huskisson moved the order of the day for a committee upon the reciprocity of duties bill.

The house then resolved itself into the said committee.

Mr. Huskisson then said, that he would take this convenient opportunity of stating the nature of the alteration which he proposed to make in the commercial regulations of the country. He begged, in the first place, to state, that although his measure involved a very important change in the commercial policy hitherto acted upon, and was, to a certain extent, a direct departure from the principle which they had observed towards foreign powers, yet he was sure it was one which would meet with general approbation, and be productive of mutual advantage in the transactions between this country The commitand foreign states. tee were aware that it had hitherto been the practice to exempt British ships from a certain proportion of duties which were exacted from foreign vessels trading to Great Britain. Certain drawbacks, which

were available to British shipping. were also disallowed to foreigners. in conformity with the same exclusive principle. Under the circumstances in which the commercial regulations of this country were heretofore placed, it was not, perhaps, necessary to reconsider this principle, so long as foreign powers were not in a condition to complain of its inequality; but it might easily be anticipated that whenever they did effectively complain, the principle would be found untenable. Accordingly, the greatest state next to Great Britain, in her maritime arrangements, and her great rival in the trade of the seas-the United States of America—adopted what was not very wonderful under all the circumstances—a retaliatory principle, and placed British shipping in America upon the same footing that American shipping was placed here; the consequence, as might be expected, was a great embarrassment to the trade between the two countries. It necessarily led to the disadvantageous exhibition of one set of ships importing into one country, and another set exporting from another. inevitable consequence opened the eyes of both, and made them eventually agree to a mutual abatement of this war of prohibition and of exclusively protecting duties .-Other powers, seeing the success of the effort of America, of course took the same means of getting rid of the evil, and England was obliged to agree that the new arrangement should comprehend Portugal and her dependencies. King of the United Netherlands also pursued the same steps to get rid of a similar inconvenience, and in the year 1821 adopted a resolution, which was not to operate until

until the beginning of the present year. The resolution was, giving a premium of ten per cent. upon their own shipping trade, which consequently amounted to the imposition of a duty to an equal amount upon foreign shipping. The operation of this regulation was very prejudicial to the British trade, and it was perfectly understood that it was enacted as a retaliatory Prussia had projected a measure. similar arrangement, unless England abandoned her exclusive shipping duty. It was quite clear from these occurrences, that the time had arrived for reconsidering the British commercial principle: they must adopt one of two consequences—either to persevere in their present system, through the instrumentality of protecting duties and prohibitions, or else to admit other powers to a perfect equality and reciprocity of shipping duties. The latter, he thought, was the course they were bound to adopt. Its effect, he was persuaded, would lead to an increase of the commercial advantages of the country: while at the same time it had a tendency to promote and establish a better political feeling and confidence among the mariting powers, it would abate the sources of commercial jealousy, idly wasting their force in a race of mutual annoyance. It was time. in the improved state of the civilization of the world, to establish more liberal principles; and show, that commerce was not the end, but the means of diffusing comfort and enjoyment among the nations embarked in its pursuit. who had the largest trade must necessarily derive the greatest advantage from a better international He had no doubt that regulation.

when England abandoned her old principle, the Netherlands, and other powers who were prepared to retaliate, would mutually concur in a new arrangement. He was prepared to hear from the hon. member near him (Mr. Robertson), that the proposed alteration would be prejudicial to the British shipping In such an observation interests. he could not concur; for he thought, on the contrary, that the shipping interests of this country had nothing to apprehend from that of other nations. The committee would recollect, that when the alteration in the navigation laws was projected, similar unfavourable anticipations were made by parts of the shipping interests, but these anticipations proved in the result entirely unfounded. It was quite time to get rid of this retaliatory principle, which, if carried to the extreme of which it was susceptible, must injure every species of trade. One sort of shipping would be carrying the trade of one country, and then return without an equivalent advantage, to make way for the countervailing regulations of another power, or else to return What would the counin ballast. try think of the establishment of a waggon which was to convey goods to Birmingham, and afterwards to return empty? The consumer. would, he thought, feel little obliged for such a mode of regulating the conveyance of his merchandise. The resolutions which he meant to propose were, to confer upon the King in council the power of relaxing the old law, where other powers departed from the retaliatory principle, and to continue it where they did not. He knew that it was intended by the King of Prussia to abate his retaliation when England

England relaxed her regulations; indeed, he had the best authority. for it was that of the Prussian minister in this country, for knowing that such was her intention. That minister had stated, in his note, the principle of his Prussian majesty to be, an admission "that reciprocal commercial restrictions were reciprocal nuisances, prejudicial to all nations having reciprocal interests, and particularly to those engaged in extensive commerce: and that the policy of Prussia was to substitute, in the place of reciprocal prohibitions, reciprocal facilities." The right honourable gentleman concluded by moving the following resolutions:

"That it is the opinion of this committee, that his Majesty be authorized, by order in council, to declare that the importation or exportation of merchandise in foreign vessels may take place upon payment of the like duties, and with the like drawbacks or bounties, and allowances, as are payable or granted upon similar merchandise when imported or exported in British vessels from or to countries in which no other duties are charged, or drawbacks, bounties, and allowances granted on the importation or exportation of merchandise in British vessels, than are charged or granted on such merchandise when imported or exported in vessels of such countries.

"That it is the opinion of this committee, that his Majesty may, by order in council, direct the levying and charging of additional duties, of customs, or the withholding of any drawbacks, bounties, or allowances, upon merchandise imported or exported into or from the united kingdom in vessels belong-

ing to any country in which higher duties shall have been levied, or smaller drawbacks, bounties, or allowances granted, upon merchandise when imported into or exported from such country in British vessels, than are levied or granted upon similar merchandise when imported or exported in vessels of such country."

Mr. Ellice concurred entirely in the liberal principles which actuated the British government in the proposed commercial regulation; but he strongly entreated the right honourable gentleman to consider the justice of putting British shipping, in its original costs, as nearly as possible upon a footing with foreign shipping, now that he was about to equalize the duties upon He begged to remind the right honourable gentleman that the hemp duty of 9l. to 10l. a ton. varied considerably in its character now when the price was 301. or 40l., from what it did when the price was 80l. or 90l. It was impossible that the shipping interests could bear the pressure of such a tax while foreign shipping were exempted from it, without feeling a great comparative inconvenience. He was sure that the government would do well to reduce to the lowest possible scale the charges affecting British shipping. He also wished that copies of the proposed regulations, both of this and of other countries, were communicated to the house.

Mr. Huskisson replied that it was intended they should.

Mr. Sykes said, that when he considered that this bill would go to the root of the naval system of Great Britain, and when he considered that under the law as it now stood, that navy had flourish-

ed and become great, he could not help recommending the utmost caution, before the proposed alteration was adopted. He hoped that under the impression of such a feeling, it was not too much to ask the right hon, gentleman to permit his bill to stand over until the next session, and to have it, in the interim, circulated in a printed form among the shipping interests: otherwise those interested would have no opportunity of being heard respecting their property. also strongly recommended that government should attend to what had fallen from the hon. member for Coventry (Mr. Ellice), respecting a reduction of the taxes affecting the shipping interests, and also relax the excise system relating to contraband goods, to which he had adverted on a former night. There was another subject which he hoped the committee on foreign trade would sift to the bottom-he meant the abominable (for he could use no other term) charges upon British shipping in the shape of consulate duties; which, singular enough, always decreased, as the consul was situated near Great Britain, and increased according to the distance from the mother coun-The great charges made under this head were deemed a heavy grievance by the magistrates.

Mr. Huskisson, in answer to what had fallen from the hon. member who spoke last respecting delay, observed, that he thought it advisable that the bill should be brought in and passed through the house as speedily as possible.

Mr. Wullace merely rose at the present moment to express his general concurrence in the resolutions

of his right honourable friend. He did not mean to deny that the system of discriminating duties which this country had adopted, had been of advantage as long as foreign powers were disposed to submit to it; but now, when every country was desirous of affording protection to its own commerce, it was impossible that such a system could continue without producing retaliation against us. He was perfectly convinced that a system of reciprocity between this and other countries would be found to be the most advantageous that could be pursued for the mercantile interest of Great Britain. would not change his opinion of . the propriety of his right hon. friend's proposition to find that it was opposed by the shipping interest; for in the course of his official experience, he had always found that on every occasion when the ship-owners had come forward to oppose a public measure originating with the government, they were in the wrong. With respect to what had been said about the necessity of delaying the introduction of the bill, he must observe, that if the measure was desirable at all. the sooner it was adopted the bet-He believed that the fears which had been expressed the injury likely to result to the mercantile interest from carrying into effect the views of his right hon, friend were perfectly groundless. The shipping of Great Britain was perfectly able to compete with that of any other country.

Mr. Robertson opposed the resolutions, on the ground that, if carried into effect, they would increase the distresses under which the shipping interest at present laboured. laboured. He would prove, from documents which he held in his hand, that the shipping interest was not in so flourishing a state as had been represented. In the period from 1821 to 1823, it appeared that there had been a falling off in ship-building to the extent of 161 ships, and 122,000 tons. In the same period there had also been a decrease in our navigation, to the amount of 732 ships, 129,000 tons, and 8,000 This was the conseseamen. quence of the system recommended by political economists. The end of that system would be, to drive the trade of Great Britain into the hands of foreign countries. This was the only country in Europe which was abandoning the system of protecting duties. few years ago, when America obtained some concessions from us, she wished to obtain similar concessions from France; but the French government would not yield a jot, but imposed a light duty on importations from America, who, in her turn, did the same with respect to France. The views entertained by the President of the Board of Trade were certainly favourable to the mercantile interests, but they were equally prejudicial to ship-owners and builders.

Mr. Ricardo thought the right honourable gentleman who had proposed the resolutions deserved the thanks of his country for bringing forward a measure so much calculated to add to its prosperity. Ile hoped soon to see Canada deprived of the preference which she enjoyed in the timber trade, and placed in that respect upon the same feoting as Norway and Sweden.

Mr. Marryat approved of the resolutions, but thought that the duties upon timber imported from the Baltic, and employed in shipbuilding in this country, ought to be repealed.

Mr. C. Grant supported the resolutions, which were then put and carried.

The house resumed, and the report was ordered to be brought up on Monday.

Lord Milton gave notice that if the game laws were not amended during the present session, he would, next session, move for the repeal of the act, prohibiting the sale of game, commonly called Mr. Banks's act.

Upon the motion for going into a committee on the Irish tithe commutation bill,

Mr. D. Browne expressed his objection to that part of the bill which had already received the sanction of the committee, and which provided that all grass land in Ireland should in future be taxed by a parish vestry, in the appointment of which the persons to be taxed had no influence. He suggested the postponement of the present measure until next session, when full time would be given for its consideration.

Mr. Abercromby admitted that some parts of the bill were extremely objectionable; but still he wished the house to go into the committee, and endeavour to make it as perfect as possible.

Sir J. Newport expressed his entire concurrence in what had fallen from his hon. and learned friend.

Mr. W. Bankes said he had objections to the bill, which could not be removed unless a case of strong exigency were made. He

must, therefore, support the hon. member against going into a committee.

Mr. Wetherell said he was not hostile to the principle of composition, but he thought the clause ought to be an enabling and not a

compulsory one.

Mr. Canning said there were, no doubt, objections to some parts of the bill, but hon, members ought to wait until the measure was in the committee, to see whether those objections might not be removed. there were some hon. members who thought that no amendments could render the bill unobjectionable, and that they must oppose it under any form, they would do better to abstain from any attempt to make it perfect, and then, when it came out of the committee, oppose it with all its defects. Let them, however, not strangle the measure in its present stage, and in a way which was not in accordance with the general practice of parliament. The rejection of the bill in its present state would be little calculated to produce any good result.

Colonel Barry objected to the bill, on the ground of its compulsory clause, which, if passed, would render the measure a source, not of conciliation, but of discontent, from one end of Ireland to the other.

Mr. Peel said, that going into the committee would not hinder the right honourable gentleman from opposing the compulsory clause, or of opposing the whole measure afterwards, if that clause were retained in the bill. He would consent to no compulsory clause, unless the full equivalent were given to the party.

Mr. V. Fitzgerald objected not only to the compulsory clause, but

even if that were removed, to the remainder of the bill.

After a few words from Colonel

Trench,

Mr. Dominick Browne withdrew his opposition, and the house went into the committee.

Several verbal amendments were

proposed and agreed to.

Upon the clause setting out the manner in which the value of the livings were to be estimated in situations where no previous adjudication had been entered into.

Mr. S. Rice objected to the proposal for estimating the tithe upon an average of its value during any three of the last seven years. Too high an amount would in that way, he thought, be taken. He submitted that the proper average would be the average of the last three years.

Mr. Goulburn observed, that many clergymen had, for the last three years, been receiving nothing. The effect of taking an average for the last three years would be this—the hard-hearted man, who had exacted every penny of his right, without reference to the inability of his parishioners to pay, would be adjudged to a good income; while the compassionate individual, who had forborne going to extremities, would get little or nothing.

Sir John Newport was in favour of the three years' average, and thought that, upon those terms, the clergy would still be well paid. The Commissioners had power to add one third to the estimated value of livings; and the clergyman got the farther advantage of saving twenty-five per cent. cost of collection, and at least twenty per cent. more, loss by insolvent parishioners.

Mr.

Mr. D. Browne objected to the seven years' average, as giving a result too much in favour of the

clergyman.

Mr. Dawson protested against the last three years' average, and was in favour of giving compensation for amounts already due to clergymen and unrecovered. The honourable member quoted two letters which he had lately received from the south of Ireland—one from a clergyman whose living was rated at 1200l. a year, doubting if he should not resign it altogether; and another from a gentleman with a living estimated at 800l. a year, declaring that his last year's receipt had been 160l.

Mr. Peel was strongly against taking the present receipt into the calculation.

Mr. G. Bennet said that a three years' average out of the last seven years might set too high the rated future income of the clergyman.

The clause was then agreed to.

On the clause for settling the judicial mode of award, Mr. Wetkerell felt objections to placing these new powers in the commissioners, and he was still more opposed to giving so large a power to the appellant jurisdiction with which the Lord Lieutenant, with his council, was to be intrusted. He considered that those powers were at variance with all the existing laws for the regulation of church property.

Mr. Plunkett said, that examples of arming the Irish Government with a similar power might be found. The Lord-Lieutenant and his council were the court of appeal for cases in which salvage, which had been awarded by the parish officers for useful service in rescuing from shipwreck, should be

called in question. They had the same power in the case of minister's money and several others. The appeal was necessary to prevent the corruption or misconduct of the commissioners of award.

The original clause was carried

without a division.

The next clause proposed was that which has been termed in the course of the previous discussions, "the compulsory clause." The object of it is, in cases where the vestry and the minister differ as to the appointment of an umpire, to empower the Lord Lieutenant to appoint a commissioner to make a composition according to the quantity and value of the land in the parish.

Colonel Barry objected to this clause, because it would convey to men who were not likely to be very well qualified, the power of judging in all questions of tithe, many of which involved nice and subtile points of law. He moved that it

be left out of the bill-

Mr. S. Rice said that it would be best, as the clause was of considerable length, and might be made the subject of various amendments, to discuss the terms of it first, after which the honourable member might take the sense of the house upon its continuance. He proceeded to move several verbal alterations.

Mr. Hume took this opportunity of asking whether it was the intention of the right hon, gentleman to insert in the bill any provision for preventing the non-resident clergy from receiving the composition for tithes.

Mr. Goulburn replied, that he had no such intention at present; although he would not pledge himself to take any particular steps at present,

present, he was convinced that some such measure was necessary to secure the permanent improvement and amelioration of the people.

Mr. Wetherell opposed the clause, because its operation would be to compel the Government to take in some cases a bad title, and yet give to the clergyman a larger tithe than he would otherwise have had.

Mr. Canning could not but think there was something inconsistent in the honourable and learned gentleman's opposition to this part of the clause, after he had approved of the principle of the other.

Mr. C. Grant thought great credit was due to the Government for having originated this measure. which he believed would go far to alleviate one of the greatest evils with which Ireland was plagued. He objected, however, to that part of the compulsory clause, which would give the commissioner the power to enforce the full legal The number of titheable articles in Ireland was much larger than in England, amounting to about thirty in the former, and to not more than six in the latter.

Mr. Goulburn defended this part of the bill, the principle of which had, he said, been recognized in several instances in England.

Sir Nicholas Colthurst was strongly opposed to this compulsory clause.

Mr. Abercromby thought this was one of the most important clauses yet submitted to the house; and he felt much obliged to his Majesty's ministers for bringing the measure forward. At the same time he thought he should be obliged to oppose it, and he hoped justice would be done to his mo-

tives, if in the committee he should feel compelled to vote against it. Though he was a friend to the cause of Catholic emancipation, he was no friend to any thing like Roman Catholic ascendancy. the other hand, if this clause should pass, he agreed with those who thought that the Protestant ascendancy in Ireland was not worth five years' purchase. He objected to the clause, but he approved the He hoped some arrangement might be come to, which should send forth this bill as a relief and benefit to the clergy in Ireland. There was unquestionably a difference between the law and the practice in respect of tithes in Ireland: and it was not for this house (as he thought) to give a bonus to the clergy only, which the adoption of this clause would certainly confer on He felt very much disposed to support the hon. colonel's amendment, because that obviated the principal objections which he at present felt to this clause.

Mr. Peel was desirous that the compulsory clause should be omitted altogether; and this he said, not out of regard for the cases of any particular clergymen, but on a general principle of equity. could not see how it could be retained with any greater degree of fairness than the vote of the Irish Parliament of 1735 could be sustained; that vote which declared that the tithe of agistment should not be levied on grass lands - that is, the land of the richest proprietors. If he were asked whether he wished for the appointment of a commission to estimate and to give to the clergy the full value of their dormant rights, he replied at once that he wished for no such thing. But he was opposed to the compul-

sory clause in principle.

. Sir J. Newport would support the amendment.

Mr. Peel said, if the amendment should be carried, he would recommend that the bill be thrown out altogether.

The numbers were,—For the amendment, 39—Against it, 84.

The house then resumed; the chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Tuesday next. The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the house adjourned.

House of Lords, June 9.—The Lord Chancellor moved that the farther consideration of the report on the marriage law bill be postponed till to-morrow.—Agreed to.

Earl Bathurst presented returns relative to places granted in reversion in the colonies.

The Marquis of Lansdown presented a petition from Knaresborough, praying for the abolition of

negro slavery.

The noble Marquis then moved the second reading of the Irish grand jury presentments' bill. The bill was accordingly read the second time, and ordered to be committed on Thursday next.

The Marquis of Lansdown then moved the second reading of the Irish joint tenancy bill: the object of which his lordship stated to be the putting an end to a practice which had become very common—namely, the granting of small quantities of land to, a number of joint-tenants for electioneering purposes. The bill did not interfere with any existing leases to tenants in common; but denied prospectively the registration of any lease for a less number of acres than twenty.

The Earl of Limerick expressed his approbation of the bill, and was

only sorry that it did not go much farther.

The bill was then read a second time, and ordered to be committed on Thursday next.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, June 9.—Petitions were presented from the woollen manufacturers of Halifax against regulating the bill for regulating the wages of workmen—from Leeds and Manchester against the linen stamping bill—against the beer duty—from the master silk manufacturers of London and Westminster against the silk manufacture bill—against the duty on candles.

On the motion of *Dr. Phillimore*, the marriage act amendment bill was ordered to be read a second time on this day six months.

The house having resolved itself into a committee on the Scotch and Irish Distillery acts, the Chancellor of the Exchequer said, he would at the present moment content himself with moving certain resolutions, which would be the foundation of a bill to be hereafter introduced. When this bill should be brought in, he would give any explanation which might be required. He concluded by moving some resolutions, which were agreed to.

The house then resumed, and the report was ordered to be received to-morrow.

The recognizances bill was read a third time, and passed.

Upon the motion of Mr. Huskisson, the report of the committee on the silk manufacture bill was brought up.

According to order, counsel (Messers. Adams and Wilde) for the petitioners against the bill, were then called in and heard at the bar.

As soon as they had concluded, Mr. Huskisson moved, that the report of the committee (on the

bill) be agreed to.

Mr. F. Buxton said, he would not follow the learned counsel who had just been heard, by going into the question of the political economy of the bill. The principles upon which it was founded might be just, but, just or otherwise, they could not affect the motion which he was about to submit-that the petitioners should be allowed to prove their case by evidence, before the measure was carried farther. His main ground of objection was, that the petitioners had not been heard; and they respectfully submitted, that if allowed to produce evidence, they would be enabled to establish a case sufficient to show that the present laws ought to be allowed to remain. The committee which had sat in 1818 was on the silk trade of Coventry—not on that of Spitalfields. The very first question asked of the town-clerk of Coventry, by the committee, was ----as to the amount of poor-rates in that city. He answered 19s. in the pound. A similar question was asked of the treasurer of Spitalfields, as to their amount there; and he answered that they did not exceed 6s. Here, then, was the visible effect of the difference of prices in the two places; and the measure now before the house would have the effect of throwing the weavers of Spitalfields upon the parish, for part of their subsistence, and, of course, of raising the poorrates to an enormous amount. The committee inquired what was the amount of a weaver's earnings per week in Coventry? They were told, it was between five and six shillings, while the same kind of work produced fifteen or sixteen shillings per week to the weaver in London; and yet it was asserted, that the bill which would deprive them of those earnings, and place them on a scale with the Coventry weavers, would be a benefit to them. He begged of the house to consider what would be the moral effect of It would tend to this measure. pauperize the working population of Spitalfields. It was proved before the committee in 1818, that the weavers of Coventry received half their support from their employers, and the other half from the parish. In Spitalfields they received no parochial relief while The low wages in employment. in Coventry introduced what was called half-pay apprenticeships, which gave rise to the greatest profligacy among the young persons thus employed. The reverse of this was seen in the conduct of the weavers in Spitalfields, than whom a more moral set of people were not to be found among the working classes. So convinced did the committee of 1818 seem of the evils attending the system adopted in Coventry, that they recommended the extension of the Spitalfields act to that place, as the only remedy which could be devised. The honourable member proceeded to enforce the justice of hearing what the petitioners had to offer in evidence, and concluded by moving, as an amendment, that the bill be sent to a special committee upstairs.

Mr. Huskisson said, that in opposing the amendment, he might admit the whole of the facts stated by the hon. gent., and also by the learned counsel at the bar. It was said that the bill would have the effect of increasing the poor-rates, by throwing the weavers upon them for part of their subsistence. Now, if the poor-rates had not been increased much in Spitalfields, it should be recollected that the weavers there, in periods of distress, had received very considerable assistance from the public purse, which was not the case in other parts of the country; but he was prepared to contend, that if the present regulations were continued, instead of rendering the weavers partly dependent on the poor-rates, they would make them entirely so, by depriving them of all employment. It could not be denied that if there existed a competition in any part of the country, by which the work could be done for half the price paid in London, the effect would be to deprive the masters in London of all business, and of course the workmen of employment. the rate were to be fixed in London, why not extend it all over the country? But for such a general extension, he was satisfied no person would contend. Under these circumstances, he would object to going into a committee, when he admitted all the facts which would **be likely to be proved there, but** which could not affect the principle of the bill.

Mr. Ellice, Colonel Wood, Mr. Ricardo, Mr. Brougham, Sir J. Macintosh and other members spoke, most of whom were in favour of referring the bill to a committee; after which the house divided: For going into committee, 60—Against it, 68.

The report was then received, and the bill ordered to be read a third time on Wednesday next.

On the motion that the house do resolve itself into a committee of supply,

Mr. Creevey rose, to call the

attention of the house to a heavy grievance of the Leeward Islands, known by the name of the four and a half per cent. duty. held petitions in his hand from the five islands affected by this impost; for it applied only to certain islands, and was not a general tax upon the colonies; and the assemblies of Barbadoes, Antigua, St. Kitt's, Nevis, and Montserrat (not aware, probably, that they were. petitioning some of their own pensioners) stated their inability to bear the tax, and threw themselves upon the liberality of the house. The hon, member then read the five petitions to which he had alluded. They complained generally of distress, depreciation in the value of West India produce, and the hardship of being obliged to pay the four and a half per cent. When he had formerly brought this matter before parlinment, he had merely contended for applying the produce of the tax in question to public purposes, instead of giving it away in pensions; but, on consideration of the petitions which he had just read to the house, he now proposed to move for the abolition of the duty alto-He thought it hard upon gether. these five islands, that they should be saddled with the maintenance of so many ladies and gentlemen of condition in England. He (Mr. Creevey) was the farthest in the world from desiring any interference with the private arrangements of the Royal Family: but the King had granted pensions to two of his sisters still at the expense of the unlucky Leeward Islands. He repeated, that in what he said he meant nothing offensive; but he could not understand upon what principle these pensions should have have been granted: why the Leeward Islands were to have the honour of contributing to the subsistence of the Duke of Gloucester or of the Prince of Hesse Homberg, he could not conceive. Then there were five pensions of 500l. each to the Miss Fitzcla-There were gentlemen, rences. too, high in office—one whom he (Mr. Creevey) saw in his place, and one whom he did not seewho were pleased to allow the Leeward Islands to make provisions for their families—an bonour of which the islands were by no means desirous, and a principle to which he (Mr. Creevey) decidedly objected. Right honourable gentlemen could not say that they were ignorant of the distress of the colonies; their own acts proved their knowledge of the fact. They could support the colonies fast enough, and urge their distress in a particular way. They could support the colonies by taxing East India sugar, or by taxing the consumer of West India sugar in England; but it never occurred to them to abate that tax out of which their own pensions were derived. There was another proof, too—and one very intimately connected with the subject of the present motion—that hon. gent. were ignorant of the depressed state of the colonial interests; there was a charge of no less than 13,000l. upon the droits of the admiralty for deficiencies (as to pensions payable) of the 42 per cent. fund. The fact was, that the duty being 44 per cent. upon the rum and sugar itself, its results, at the present low price of produce, did not meet the amount of pensions charged upon it. And here be (Mr. Creevey) decidedly had to

complain again. The ladies and gentlemen had certainly no right of claim for deficiencies. They were pensioned upon the islands, and were bound to take their pensions in kind. They were to have so much run; and sugar-not so much money; and if they could not get all they wanted, they were bound to be contented with what they could get. He should take no farther notice at present, the hon, member continued, of the grant in question from the droits of admiralty, but should on some future occasion move for papers connected with that transaction. If the house would not take a case like the present into its consideration, he hoped, at least, after its refusal, to hear no more jokes about parliamentary reform - no more witty remarks in the Red Lion and King of Bohemia style from the right hon gentleman (Mr.Canning.) opposite. If the house did turn its back upon the case, might not the country fairly say, that nominally, indeed, it was a representation of the people of England, but in reality a private corporation enriching its non-members from all means within its reach, whether abroad or at home? After observing that he had preferred bringing forward the present question as a grievance before the business of supply, to bringing it on as a separate order, that course having been constantly pursued in the days of our ancestors, and the question of supply being truly the proper introduction to the mention of grievances of every description, the hon. member sat down by moving the following resolutions, in which he had endeavoured, he said, to embody the petitions of the persons on whose behalf he proceeded:--

Resolved

Resolved—" That it appears to this house, by petitions presented to it this session from the colonial assemblies of each of the Leeward Islands, that the planters and proprietors in those colonies are, from various causes, reduced to a situation of distress and misery, which, if not relieved, must shortly terminate in their utter ruin.

"That in the petition from the island of Barbadoes, the petitioners state, ' that were they to go into a detail of their distresses, they could furnish ample and melancholy proofs thereof in ruined families and individuals, multiplied sales of estates, and the straitened and unhappy condition of all who are solely dependent upon West Indian resources; and that, fluctuating as the prosperity of those colonies has undoubtedly been, yet the present calamitous depression is beyond all former precedent, and much greater than on those occasions when parliament did not hesitate to investigate the circumstances which produced the evil.'

"That in the petition from the island of Antigua, the petitioners state, 'that they were reduced to such an extremity of distress, that, actuated by the uncontrollable impulse of self-preservation, they can no longer refrain from throwing themselves on the wisdom, liberality, and enlightened feeling of this house, and they pray for such relief as to such magnanimous counsels may seem expedient and proper.'

"That in the petition from the island of Montserrat, the petitioners state, that, 'unable any longer to contend with their difficulties, or to ward off, unassisted, the ruin with which they are threatened, they feel themselves under the im1823.

perious necessity of appealing to this house to take into its consideration the miserable condition of that once flourishing but now declining colony; that they have with the utmost concern received intelligence of the unavailing representations made by their friends and connexions in the mother-country to his Majesty's ministers, and whilst they express their regret on the rejection of the proposed modes of relief, beg to refer the house to them as the only efficient means of rescuing from inevitable destruction that valuable part of his Majesty's dominions.'

"That in the petition from the island of Nevis, the petitioners state, 'that the period has at length > arrived when a silent submission to the unprecedented distresses which now overwhelm that unfortunate colony would become a crime in any class of subjects enjoying the rights and privileges of the British constitution; and that as a respectful appeal to this house is still open to them, they eagerly avail themselves of this last effort for the preservation of all that is most dear to them in this world: that the petitioners have not failed to submit to his Majesty's ministers a statement of their grievances under which they labour; but that disappointment has been their only reward for every such representation, and they have now only to implore the benevolent interposition of this house.'

"That in the petition from the island of St. Christopher's, the petitioners state, 'that the distress to which that colony is reduced hath reached that extreme point when ailence is impossible, and when a respectful representation to this house is become the ultimate means

T

of self-preservation; that the progressive states by which this desolation has overwhelmed them have, from time to time, been laid at the foot of the throne of our gracious monarch, and been made known to his Majesty's government, and that the interference of this house can alone extricate the petitioners from the most severe pressure of the difficulties which beset them.'

"That it appears to this house, that one grievance, amongst others complained of in each of the foregoing petitions, is the tribute or duty which is exacted from these islands, of four hogsheads and a half out of every hundred hogsheads of their sugar, with the same proportion from their rum and all other productions of the islands, and that such tribute or duties being exacted exclusively from these 'devoted' islands (as they are termed by the petitioners from St. Christopher's), whilst all the other colonies, old as well as new, are free from it, is most partial and oppressive.

"That it farther appears to this house, that this partial and oppressive tribute from the sugar and rum of the Leeward Islands, is converted, for the most part, into pensions for persons of the higher orders in the mother country, including even members of the Royal family, ministers of the Crown, members of both houses of parliament, their families or connexions: and that under the present deplorable condition of the Leeward Islands, the farther exaction of the tribute from them is a scandal upon the mother country, and an intolerable grievance upon these colonies, which this house, appealed to as it has been, is alike

bound in honour and justice to see removed forthwith."

Mr. Canking divided the question into two parts; the first affected the right of the Crown to this particular branch of revenue; the second affected the right of the Crown to appropriate it in any manner which might be deemed suitable by his Majesty's govern-These topics had been frequently discussed within the walls of that house, and on each occasion both of these rights had been affirmed. And though he might concede to the honourable gentleman, that the present state of the West India islands might make it desirable to modify it so as to meet the circumstances, still, when it was considered that this fund was not now nor could be placed at the direct disposal of parliament, without the exercise of some very unusual harshness on their parts. he thought the argument of the honourable gentleman would not apply to the case before them. These duties had existed too long under the sanction of parliament to be affected, as a matter of revenue policy, by his speech. The next question was, as to the right of appropriating them, upon which there was no vote of the house for the argument of the honourable gentleman to rest upon: Mr. Burke himself, in the most sanguine of his efforts for effecting financial reform, had never entertained a doubt upon the subject, but left it as he found it—at the disposal of the The honourable gentleman had specified instances of the manner in which this fund had been disposed of, and in which he supposed some indiscretion to have been practised. As to what had

been stated with respect to his own connexion with the fund, he was ready to admit the fidelity and accuracy of the honourable gentleman. It was true that many years ago he had held an office, on retiring from which, by constant and uniform practice, which had long the sanction of law, he became entitled to a pension of 1200% a year. It was true that be had retired from that office with the fullest claim to this pen-It was true that he declined the pension, choosing to wave his particular right; and it was true that it was afterwards commuted for a pension of half the amount for a person who had direct claims upon his protection. He remembered, also, with great satisfaction, that at the time this choice was considered as a considerable sacrifice on his part. Having said so much for himself, he had little to add upon the general question. Certainly it was open to parliament to deliberate upon particular instances in the disposal of this fund, if a case of indiscretion were made out. The hon. gentleman had exerted this right in a manner of which he would not complain. He had gone into instances, and complexions of instances, which he thought fit subjects for the observation of parliament. The hon. gentleman well knew that if be (Mr. Canning) chose, he could have taunted him with the names of persons in the same situation who were connected with parties highly respected by the hon. gentleman. That mode was too invidious for him to follow. The house had a right to examine into supposed abuses as to the application of this the same as any

other branch of the resources. But he must say, that the hon. gent. did not seem to have made out any case which was likely to bring upon it a vote of censure from the house.

Mr. Hume and Mr. Brougham afterwards spoke, who supported the resolutions; after which they were put as an amendment, and negatived by 103 against 57.

The Speaker put the question for

leaving the chair.

Mr. Hume complained of the length of time which had elapsed before laying the expenses of the coronation on the table. The promise given by the Chancellor of the Exchequer before the coronation was, that the expenses would certainly not exceed the estimate of 100,000l. It now turned out to be 238,000/., the remainder of which was taken from the French indem-Estimates so totally disnities. agreeing with the expenses were a folly and a farce. The government had no more right to appropriate this sum to the purpose for which it had been used, than they had to apply any other part of the public money without the vote of the There were some items of the vote which were so enormous. that it would be impossible to pass them by without inquiry. For the furniture and decoration of Westminster-abbey and Westminsterhall, a sum of 111,000%. was charg-The house and the public had, he thought, a right to know the several items of which this charge The Master of was composed. the Robes was set down at 24,700l. for his Majesty's robes. Of what service was it to attempt the relief of public burdens by cutting down small clerks, and inflicting distress

upon individuals, when such sums were expended for such purposes? The next item to which be called the attention of the house, was one of 50,000l. to the surveyor of the works for the fitting up of Westminster-abbey and the Hall. Every body knew that large contributions had been made from many of the public departments in workmen and materials, and therefore it was fit that the reason why so great an expense had been incurred on this account should be explained. There were a variety of other items, which, though not of so large an amount, equally required investigation. There was one, in particular, which he thought might have been dispensed with: it was a sum of 3000l. paid to Sir George Naylor, towards the expense of that account of the ceremony which had been published. He reproached the ministry with having shown very bad faith in calling for so small a sum as had been originally mentioned as the probable expense of the coronation, and afterwards proposing a vote to the amount of upwards of 238,000l. They knew that if the latter sum had been originally asked for, it would not have been granted. He would also accuse the Chancellor of the Exchequer and his colleagues of having violated the public faith, by taking money to which they had no right. vote of the house it was laid down. that a minister, applying public money without the sanction of an appropriation bill, was guilty at the least of a high disrespect. referred to a speech of the Minister in 1821, in which credit was taken for a sum of 500,000l. due to this country on account of the indemnity from France, and which it was then distinctly stated was to be applied to the ways and means. Of this sum he believed that 138,000/. had been applied to the expenses of the coronation; and he thought, under the circumstances, that the house could not sanction' so unjustifiable a proceeding. It would fail in its duty to the public, if it did not call, before it proceeded one step farther, or voted away one shilling more, for an examination into the profligate extravagance which this He should therebill displayed. fore move, as an amendment-"That as the amount of 238,2384., charged as the expenses of his Majesty's coronation, as stated in an account lately laid before Parliament, so greatly exceeded the estimate of 100,000l. submitted to the house in 1820, it is expedient, before granting any farther supply to his Majesty, to appoint a select committee to inquire into the circumstances which have occasioned that excess of charge, and into the several items constituting charge, and also to inquire by what authority the sum of 138,238/. has been applied to discharge the coronation expenses, without the previous sanction of the house."

On the amendment being put, The Chancellor of the Exchequer rose and said, that considering the very severe terms which the hon. gent. had applied to his Majesty's government, and as he had charged them with the grave crimes of being wasteful and profligate, and of having illegally appropriated the public money, he thought it would have been but fair if he had given notice of his intention to make such a motion as that he had just pro-For himself, he had never heard of it until he had entered the Being, therefore, totally unprepared to give that minute explanation

planation which he should other- wise have been very happy to afford, he must be excused if he should confine himself to a few general observations. He thought the hon. gent. should not have been so much surprised that the actual expenses of the coronation had exceeded the estimate of 1820, when he recollected that the ceremony would, it was supposed, have taken place in that year. A large portion of the expense was incurred before the government advised his Majesty to postpone the ceremony; it was therefore obvious that even if the estimates had been enough for that year, they would be inadequate for the next. But although he was unable to explain the items relative to the furnishing the hall, he could reply satisfactorily to the honourable gentleman's assertion respecting the fund. The hon. gent. had made one very considerable mistake, because, although the amount of the French indemnity had been alluded to at the period mentioned by the hon. gent., it was not received then, nor had any part of it ever been appropriated to this purpose. A question had been raised in the house as to the degree of power which his Majesty possessed over the disposal of this sum. was contended that it could not be appropriated without the specific vote of the house; and if he did not mistake, the hon, member for Knaresborough had submitted the subject to the house. But the sum from which this was supplied, was the surplus of that indemnity charge, and arose from 2,000,000 of francs which had been paid for the fortifications in the Netherlands, and in aid of the maintenance of the

British army in Flanders. This surplus, then, it was thought to be competent for the Crown to dispose of as might seem expedient to the government, and he could not see any more natural or proper mode of providing for the expenses which had been incurred. For these reasons, therefore, he could not accede to the hon, gent.'s amendment.

The amendment was supported by Col. Davies, Mr. Brougham, Mr. W. S. Bennet, and Mr. Hobhouse; and opposed by Mr. Curwen. It was then negatived by 110 against 65.

The house went into committee, and 160,000l. was proposed towards defraying the civil contingeucies of 1823.

Mr. Hume objected to the item of 53271. for furniture for the royal yacht; 504l. for plates for the Rolls chapel, 1329l. for standards for three regiments of foot-guards, which he thought had nothing to do with the Civil List. He also wished to draw the particular attention of the committee to the charges made on account of foreign They were placed ambassadors. in a most extraordinary situation, in consequence of the right hon. Secretary for Foreign Affairs refusing them the necessary returns. diplomatic point of view, this country was worse off than any other in Europe. Every thing was done at the head-quarters of the allies, and our government was kept in perfect ignorance; so that our ambassadors might as well be at The hon. member then referred to the following comparative statement of the expense of diplomatic service in 1792 and 1820 :--

Total.

Total amount of salaries and annual allowances Outfit and equipage Extraordinary and incidental expenses, charges, &c Pensions to retired ministers.	1798.	1990.
	83,463 800	149,178 13,191
	5,985 11,486	35,099 54,904
•	101,734	252,262 101,734
Expense of 1820, exceeding the of 1792 by	150,531	

although Poland and Brussels, the Hans Towns, Genoa, Cologne, Hesse Cassel, and Venice, each form an item in the account of 1792, which have since been expunged from the list of independent states, and form no part of the charge of 1820; and the only additional states included in 1820, which did not appear in 1792, are Wurtemberg and the Brazils, besides 2000%. for Persia.

In 1821, there is a trifling diminution in the aggregate charge, although there is an item of 25981. for special missions for 1822. The Secretary of State had refused to render to Parliament an account of the diplomatic expenses in 1822.

The following are among the leading items which constitute the increase of expense in 1820 over that of 1792:—

Russia in 1792.	3,885 4,405	in 1890.	12,650
Prussia,	3,685	••••••	8,000
Diet	2,125		10,335
Two Sicilies,	3.320	******	7,908
Sardinia,	3,372	********	5.838
Tuscany,	3,880	*****	5,185
•	24,672	-	(12,486 84,678
		-	
			97 014

An Account of Public Money paid from the Civil List and voted for the Diplomatic Service of the Country, in the Civil Contingencies for the last five years.

•	1818.	1819.	1820.	1821.	1822.	Total.
Paid from the Civil		£. 226,950	£. 226,950	£. 226,950	£. 226,950	£. 1,131,393
Civil Contingencies.  Extraordinarydisbursements of Ministers at foreign courts  For plate to Ambassadors and Governors, by the Lord Cham-	27,535	84,135	23,940	59,664	49,391	<b>244,6</b> 65
berlain	898	9,935	155	8,720	2,348	22,056
Ministers	3,769	•••	13,369	3,499	5,907	26,544
Presents to Ministers of foreign courts	2,283	14,002	24,765	9,344	3,600	5 <b>3,</b> 99 <b>4</b>
Total	<b>258,</b> 078	335,022	289,179	308,177	288,196	1,478,652

Average of the five years £295,730.

Expenditure for 1822 was 50,118 more than in 1818.

With reference to the right of parliament to control the civil list without considering any arrange-

ment between that house and the crown as permanently definitive, he need only to refer them to the following

following opinions, which were folmally pronounced by great authorities. Mr. Fox, on Mr. Burke's bill of 1780, 8th of March, said, "Could gentlemen, then, think so absurdly as to conclude that the King's civil list revenue was given to his Majesty to expend just as he should think fit? No; it was given to him for the service of the public, and the people's representatives had, at all times, a constitutional authority to inquire into expenditure of that allowance, to reduce it, and, indeed, to take the whole of it, or, in other words, to resume the whole of it into their hands again, whenever the abuse of it, or the exigencies of the times, should require it." Sir Fletcher Norton, on the 13th of March, 1780, said, " And this suggested to him the distinction which he had some time since formed, that is, a distinction between that part of the civil list appropriated to the special purposes of government, and that other part applicable to the expenses or maintenance of the King's household. The former he thought directly and immediately within control of parliament; or, indeed, rather resulting from the nature of a public trust. The latter, he thought, stood upon a very different ground, and bore as near a relation as possible, in its nature, There were to private property. instances in which it might become very proper for parliament to interfere respecting even this part of the revenue of the civil list: but, though parliament had a right. to interfere even in the regulating of the expenses of the King's household, yet so far from wantonly interfering, there should be good ground even for controlling

the expenditure of that part of the revenue appropriated to public uses, such as the salaries of the judges, ambassadors, &c." The hon. member concluded by moving for a reduction of 52,799l. from the present vote of 160,090l.

Mr. Canning said, that with reference to the expenditure of the foreign embassies, he could assure the honourable member that they were strictly kept in the whole amount within the stipulated sum settled between the crown and parliament in the year 1816. plate was given since that time: which was not permanently assigned for the use of the embassy. and not as before, the property of the ambassador. So long as the scale. of expenditure of 1816 was recognized in this branch, and not exceeded by the crown, there was no ground for the proposed reduction.

Mr. Lennard was of opinion that this vote was upon an extravagant and unnecessary scale.

The committee then divided upon Mr. Hume's amendment, when the numbers were—For the amendment, 16—Against it, 70.

The original vote was then agreed to.

Upon an advance of 2000l. to Captain Manby, as a remuneration for his plan to save shipwrecked seamen.

Mr. Hume objected to any farther grants at so late an hour of the night, and moved that the Chairman do report progress, and ask leave to sit again.

The committee divided, when the numbers were—For reporting progress, 35—Against it, 30.

The Chairman accordingly reported progress; the house was then resumed, and the other orders of the day disposed of.—
Adjourned. •

House of Lords, June 10.—Mr. Brogden, accompanied by several other members of the House of Commons, brought up the Scotch linen manufactures bill, and several private bills.

The Earl of Liverpool moved that the Scotch linen manufactures bill be referred to a select

committee.-Agreed to.

The Duke of Atholl presented a petition from certain manufacturers of Perth against the Scotch linen manufactures bill.

Lord Rosslyn presented several petitions from flax-dressers of Dundee, and other places in Scotland,

against the same bill.

On the metion of Lord Sidmouth, the prison discipline bill was ordered to be printed, and afterwards to be referred to a committee of the whole house.

On the farther consideration of the report on the marriage law

amendment bill.

The Lord Chancellor, with reference to the forfeiture clause, said, that he had given the subject every consideration, during the time that he had been able to spare from his other avocations, but he could not say at present that he could clearly see his way: he therefore proposed that for the present the clause should stand as it was till the third reading, which would give time for the full consideration of it.

After some farther conversation, in which the Earl of Liverpool, the Earl of Lauderdale, and the Earl of Westmorland, took part, the farther consideration of the report.

was adjourned till Thursday next.

—Adjourned.

House of Commons, June 10 .-

At four o'clock only 37 members were present; the house therefore adjourned.

House of Lords, June 11.—The Earl of Donoughmore presented a petition from the attending physician of the Limerick gaol against the Irish grand jury presentment bill.

Lord Norton presented three petitions from three sub-sheriffs of counties in Ireland against the

same bill.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, June 11.— Mr. C. Calvert moved that the Southwark Court of Requests bill be recommitted. The hon. member stated that his object was to diminish the amount of fees required to be paid in the court.

Mr. Denison and Mr. P. Moore supported the motion, which was opposed by Mr. Alderman Wood

and Mr. H. Sumner.

Mr. Hume approved of the motion. As a proof that the mode of conducting the business of the court required reformation, the honmember stated, that in May last 182 causes were heard for debts, amounting to 62l. 2s. 5d., the fees paid upon which amounted to 56l. 10s. 10d.

Mr. T. Wilson wished the recommittal of the bill to be postponed till next session.

Mr. G. Bennet supported the motion.

The house then divided; the numbers were, Ayes, 35—Noes, 19.

The committee was then appointed, and ordered to make their report on or before Friday se'nnight.

Mr. C. Calvert presented a petition from certain owners of wharfs on the banks of the Thames, against the London-bridge bill.

Mr. Alderman Wood stated, that

Mr.

Mr. Telford, the engineer, had reported, that the whole amount of injury which would result to owners of wharfs from London-bridge to Teddington, in consequence of re-building London-bridge, would not exceed 10,000*l*.

After a few words from Sir I. Coffin, complaining of the impediments which were thrown in the way of the passing of the bill before the house, the petition was ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. N. Calvert brought up the report on the Limerick local taxation bill.

Petitions were presented against the duty on coals—against slavery—for a provision in the bankruptcy law amendment bill—from Leicester in favour of abolishing the combination laws—for protecting duties on corn—from Trinidad, to be governed by British laws.

Mr. Peel presented copies and extracts of despatches from the Lord - Lieutenant of Ireland, addressed to the Home Department.

—Ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. J. Williams said that he was requested by his hon. friend, the member for Westminster (Sir F. Burdett), to state, that in consequence of his present state of health not permitting him to attend the house, he should postpone his motion on the evidence taken before the house in the inquiry into the conduct of the sheriff of Dublin until the next session.

Mr. Hobhouse said, that for the reasons stated by the honourable member (Mr. J. Williams), he should, on the part of his hon. colleague, postpone his motion on the subject of military flogging.

Mr. Brougham said, that in consequence of the postponement of the hon. baronet's motion, he must also postpone one which was intended to be consequent upon it, as to the state of Ireland. He now, however, gave notice, that in the course of a few days (he would tomorrow name the particular day) he would present a petition from the Roman Catholics of Ireland, complaining of the administration of justice in that country. He also gave notice, that on the day of presenting this petition, he would move that it be referred to a committee of the whole house.

Mr. Huskisson moved the order of the day for the third reading of the silk-manufacture bill.

Several members spoke. The general opinion was in favour of the bill.

The house divided upon the third reading—For it, 53—Against it, 40. It was accordingly read and passed.

Mr. Western rose to bring forward his motion on the resumption of cash payments. He was thoroughly convinced that the contraction of the currency by the act of 1819 had heaped calamity upon the country, had added greatly to the burdens of the people, and had worked such a spoliation and confiscation of property as had altered the ranks and stations of society. He did not view this merely as an agricultural question—he protested against its being so considered, though it had certainly had the effect of so reducing the income of the landed proprietor, the profits of his tenants, and the wages of labour, that country gentlemen were impoverished, farmers distressed, and peasants degraded. It was a prevailing notion in some quarters that agriculture was recovering, and that it would in time revert to its former state of prosperity.

sperity. Nothing could be more futal than this expectation, and the average price of wheat, during the last quarter, showed that it was founded in error. Between January and May, the average price of wheat had been only 46s., and of barley, 30s.; and though the barley last year was only two-fifths of a crop, the price had not been higher than it was thirty years ago. He contended that the monied income of the country, in all other branches, had been reduced 30 per cent., and it was admitted that it had been lowered 10 per cent. even by his antagonists. The income of the land in England, Scotland, and Ireland, might be estimated, before the repeal of the property tax, at 50,000,000l., and the value of the produce at four times that sum, or 200,000,000l.; and the effect of the bill of 1819 had been just the same as if twenty millions of new taxes had been There was a laid upon the land. reduction of 30 per cent. upon the gross produce, or sixty millions out of two hundred millions, and it was taken from the rental of the landlord, the profits of the tenant, and the wages, of the peasant. was also felt severely by other classes of the community. With regard to the passing of what was called Mr. Peel's bill, if he could show that there was reasonable ground to believe that the House of Commons, in 1819, was not fully aware of the consequences that might result from it, or that there was a total misapprehension as to the value of the currency, he thought he should have laid sufficient ground for acquiescence in his motion. would observe that there was no-. thing of which the house ought to be so jealous as of the burdens

imposed upon the people; and for the sake of mere consistency, it was bound to examine how heavily the people in this instance had been loaded. He insisted that the act of which he complained had laid a dead weight upon the industry of the kingdom, compared with which the property-tax was a boon. It was singular that throughout all the debates and inquiries before committees previous to 1819, the amount of the debt, and the weight of taxation, had never once been consider-The house, at that date, had never contemplated the effect of the debt, and of the amount of taxation. It had appeared to think of nothing but the difference between the price of gold as estimated by paper; and the hon. member for Portarlington (Mr. Ricardo) bad thought he had done all that was necessary, when he fancied he had made out the depreciation to amount to five per cent.; this estimate had been formed without any reference to what writers in all times and countries admitted to be requisite—the proportion borne by gold to articles of prime necessity, and especially to bread-corn. Upon this point, the hon. member cited the opinion of the late Mr. Horner, contending at the same time that bread-corn ought to be the real standard of the value. He then adverted to the relative prices of wheat and value of gold at different periods: for 150 years anterior to 1792, there had been comparatively little variation in the price of wheat, the average being 41s.; but after 1792, the fluctuation had been great, and the advance rapid, the average being nearly double, or more than 80s. He found that from 1692 to 1792, an ounce of gold of the value of

31. 17s. 101d., would command fifteen bushels of wheat. 1792 to 1797, it would command only ten bushels of wheat. 1797 to 1802, the ounce of gold having advanced to 41., and the quarter of wheat to 88s., it would command only seven bushels: from 1802 to 1807, it would command eight bushels; from 1807 to 1812, only six bushels and three pecks, and from 1812 to 1817, seven bushels and two pecks. Exactly to the extent of the depression of the currency, was the increase in the amount of debt incurred by the country, and the land was at this moment loaded with the payment of what it had never received. He would now briefly state the words of his motion: it was for " a committee to take into consideration the changes made in the value of the currency between the year 1798 and the present time, and the consequences produced thereby upon the monied income of the country derived from industry; the amount of the debt considered relatively to the monied interest, and the effect of such changes upon the monied contracts between individuals." He maintained that in every instance in which the landlord had held his tenant to the strict terms of their contract, the tenant had become an absolute beggar, and few instances could be found where it was not necessary to reduce the rent thirty per cent.; this thirty per cent., it was to be remembered, was taken, not from the gross, but from the net income of the landlord. It was to be recollected also, that during the last twenty-one years, all contracts had been made, settlements had been granted, mortgages fixed, and jointures settled: they were framed and created on the basis of the land under the former currency. Taking, therefore, thirty per cent. under such circumstances, was to reduce landed proprietors to the utmost distress-to make even peers paupers, and the gentry of the land absolute beggars. called upon landed proprietors on the other side to deny this statement. No man could contradict the assertion; and the effect of the present system, if persevered in, would be to produce a wretched race of smock-frocked farmers, and a peasantry feeding upon potatoes: nothing was so much to be deprecated as a potatoe-fed population. Whatever hon, gentlemen might think, this was a general, and at all points a general question. There were classes which had not yet suffered; but let them wait: their turn would come. Let any thing like a scarcity—any thing approaching to a scarcity-ahow itself under our present starved and diminished state of cultivation, and the monied classes would quickly feel that pressure which now bore wholly upon the agriculturists. And again he urged the house to look well to the condition of the peasantry. To that class of men. particularly, the existing system was pregnant with ruin. Had not the wages of agriculture already fallen? He said that they had: and, what was ten times worse as regarded the labourer, there existed no longer that competition for his work which alone could secure him a competent rate of wages. labourer—and he repeated it—was losing his fair station in society. He could no longer now carry his services fairly into the market: he was compelled to ask employment as a boon, and it was granted to him as a favour. (Mr. Western) was loth to press

so long upon the patience of the house, but he was compelled to think that the bill of 1819 had been passed under a misapprehen-It had been distinctly declared in 1819, that the difference produced in the value of money would not exceed five per cent. Would any one now say that the bill had not produced a difference of more than three times five per cent.? And, apart from the injury to individuals, what would be the consequence to the country from this bill? Did any one believe that we could engage in a war (if necessary) with our currency in the state to which it had been brought by the act of 1819? Why, the first shot that was fired must be the signal—he was convinced of it -for an extended currency. difference which the bill of 1819 . had made, he was sure, was not fully apparent to honourable mem-Why, the highest amount paid by the country in the most expensive year of the late war, did not, calculated in our existing currency, exceed the amount which we were paying at present. During three heavy years of the late war, our charge had averaged 74,000,000/. a year; during three years still heavier, the average charge had been 84,000,000*l*. But these millions were millions of depreciated currency. The 74,000,000L were subject to a depreciation of twenty-one; the 84,000,000*l*. to a depreciation of twenty-eight per cent. So, then, in the money of the present day, the amounts were only 58,000,000l. and 60,000,000/. But could the country, with its present currency, even sustain a yearly charge of 84,000,000L or of 74,000,000L? The thing was morally—it was ab-

solutely impossible. He said that the bill of 1819 was not the restoration of an old currency, but the enactment of a new one. It was called a coming back to the state of things of twenty-two years before; but what was to become of all the transactions that had taken place (and were still pending) in the interim—those numerous and weighty transactions, both public and private, which had been the natural concomitants of a twenty years' war? Was nothing to be done as to the immense mass of public as well as private debt incurred? Was no notice to be taken that all the rates of payment through the country had been changed? Why, the pay of the army had been nearly doubled. The pay of the navy had been greatly increased. The civil list. the salaries of officers, the cost of every establishment of the government, had been raised. In all these cases the rates of payment had been raised to meet the depreciated currency; and upon what principle of reason, fairness, or common sense, did Government revert to the high value of money, and yet leave all these establishments at the nominal rate of the low value of money? It was a violation of duty-of faith to the public-to restore, by an act, the higher value of the currency, and yet leave the country burdened with the same nominal amount which had only been laid upon it with a view to the lower value. Feeling that not only the landed proprietors but all ranks of people were interested in the present question—feeling that there only wanted some small change of circumstances to bring that pressure upon every class of men which had yet been felt chiefly

by one class only;—feeling this, be thought it his duty to urge the house to an inquiry; and should sit down by moving "that a committee be appointed to examine into changes of currency between the year 1793 and the present time, and to ascertain what effects had been produced by those changesfirst, upon the money income of the country as derived from its industry: --- second, upon the amount of public debt and taxation as consequent upon the alteration of the money income of the country;and last, upon private contracts between individuals."

Mr. Ricardo agreed with the hon, member for Essex in most of his propositions; but the fault of the hon, member, and of those on his side of the question was, that they first advanced principles which no man could deny, and then drew inferences from those principles which no man could assent to. No one doubted that in proportion as the quantity of money in the country increased, its value must fall. No one questioned but that the restoration of metallic currency, by diminishing the amount of actual money in the country, must have raised its price. These were principles which he (Mr. Ricardo) himself had asserted: but the difference between him and the hon. member for Essex was this—it was as to the degree in which the value of our currency had been increased, and the degree in which prices generally had been diminished by the. bill (called Mr. Peel's bill) of 1819. It was from seeing the immense power which the Bank, prior to 1819, possessed—a power which be believed that body was inclined to exercise fairly, but which, nevertheless, might have been so used as to have become formidable

to the interests of the country it was from the view which he took of the extent of that power of the Bank, that he had rejoiced in 1819 in the prospect of a fixed currency: he had cared little at the time what the currency established was -whether it continued at its then value, or went back to the old standard-his object had been a fixed currency of some description or other. In the discussion of 1819, he certainly had said that he measured the depreciation of the then currency by the difference of value between paper and gold; and he held to that opinion still. maintained now that the value of a currency could not be measured but by a reference to the proper standard—that was, to gold; but he did not say, nor had he ever said, that the standard itself was not variable. If he had given an opinion in 1819, that by the measure then proposed the price of commodities would not be varied more than five per cent., let it be explained under what circumstances that opinion had been given. The difference in 1819 between paper and gold being five per cent., and the paper being brought by the bill of 1819 up to the gold standard, he had considered that, as the value of the currency was only altered five per cent., there could be no greater variation than five per cent. in the result as to prices. But this calculation had always been subject to a supposition that no change was to take place in the value of the gold. Mr. Peel's bill, as originally constituted, led the way to no such change. That bill did not require the Bank to provide itself with any additional stock of gold. It was not a bill demanding that coin should be thrown into circulation.

lation. It was a bill by which, if they had followed it strictly, the Bank would have been enabled to carry on the currency of the country in paper, without using an ounce more of gold than was already in their possession. charge then was, that gold had since 1819 altered its value. No doubt it had; and why? Why. because the Bank, from the moment of the passing of the bill of 1819, set their faces against the due execution of it. Instead of paying in ingots, they carried away their bullion to the Mint. turned the exchanges in favour of this country, when that measure was wholly unnecessary. A quantity of gold flowed into England, which the Bank eagerly bought By their measures, they occasioned a demand for gold, which was in no way necessarily consequent upon the bill of 1813; and so raising the price of gold in the general market of the world, they changed the standard with reference to which our currency had been calculated, in a manner which had not been presumed upon. But the honourable member for Essex said nothing of all this. He merely came down to the house, and said. my proof that there has been such and such an alteration in the value of gold is, that there is such a change in the price of wheat and of other commodities. Why this, indeed, was a sweeping principle. Every alteration, under every circumstance, in the price of commodities, might so be solved without' the trouble of inquiry, by reference to the value of gold. But, according to the argument of the honourable member for Essex, he (Mr. Ricardo) could not see any great injustice (even were the cer-

tainty of the event made out) in the price of corn for some years to come being the same as it was before the war. He really did not see what injustice (if all that happened) would be put upon the land-Those gentlemen might talk of immense debt, and of taxes to be paid, and say that they could not pay the taxes of 1823 at the prices of 1792: why, grant that to be bound to do so was a burden; but it was not a heavier burden than the other classes of the community had to bear. hon, member for Essex argued as though the stockholder had been greatly benefited by this change in the value of the currency. Why it was possible, certainly, for such events to benefit the stockholder; but really, in the present instance, he had not been benefited. our debt, let it be remembered. 500,000,000l. of it had been contracted before the currency began to be depreciated. The rest of the debt certainly had been contracted in the depreciated currency; but the loss of the stockholders upon their dividends for the 500,000,000l., as to which they were entitled to receive in money at par, would be sufficient to buy a perpetual annuity equal to the cost of the country. in paying them as to the debt plus the 500,000,000*l*, in currency at the higher value. It was said, too. that the pay of the army and navy was increased. Why, that was a loss; but it was a loss which fell equally upon all the country. and not particularly upon the agricultural interest. For his (Mr. Ricardo's) own part, it did appear to him that the success of the present motion would not benefit the lauded interest a jot; because the motion asked for an examination

mination as the changes to from the year 1793 to the present time. And as it must be admitted that the landed interest had, between the years 1800 and 1814, derived vast advantages from the depreciation of currency, the present motion, compelling them to make due allowance for the benefits they had acquired during those years, would take from them an amount, equal to that which they were like to lose by the change of 1819. The actual alteration in the value of money at the present moment, the hon member for Essex estimated at SO per cent. He (Mr. Ricardo) did not think that any such alteration had occurred. Mr. Peel's bill had been strictly followed, the alteration, he repeated, would not have exceeded 5 per The conduct of the Bank had certainly produced a farther alteration, and one which he had not expected; but that alteration taken in its fullest extent, could scarcely amount to 5 per cent. more. The true cause of the fall in the price of corn was not the change in the currency, but the abundance of the supply. Where were the proofs of a 30 per cent. change in the value of money? The legacy duty, the probate duty, the ad valorem duty on stamps—our revenue from all these sources was rather upon the increase; and certainly if a raised value of money had lessened the value of property, less might be expected generally to be paid upon transfers of pro-The honourable member for Essex asked if any man would say, that under her present system of currency the country could bear the expenses of a war? Would any man say now that the country could pay 84,000,000% a year?

Now, as the 84,000,000l., according to the honourable member's own statement, was only 60,000,000l. of our present currency, the question ought rather to have been, Could the country pay 60,000,000/? But he thought that the country would be able to pay just as much under the existing system as under any system of the honourable member for Essex's recommendation; for he thought that a change in the value of her currency could have no effect at all upon the powers of a country. This was, indeed, one of the few points upon which he differed from his right hon, friend, the President of the Board of Trade. hon, gent, had spoken of the alteration in the currency as a useful measure, viewed as a war measure. Now, he thought it was a measure of no effect at all. A change in the value of currency might be iniquitous as to individuals; it might take the money out of one man's pocket to put it into that of another; but it could have no operation whatever upon the powers of a state. And here he would just pause to correct an error which appeared in a pamphlet written by the hon. member for Essex. The hon, member, speaking of the amount of debt contracted in depreciated currency, gave the whole sum so contracted as actually operating. Now, as a great deal of what had been contracted in the depreciated currency had also been paid off in the depreciated currency. the amount taken as operating could be no more than the balance. He would remind the hon, gent. of what had taken place in that bouse in 1811, and of the hon. gentleman's own conduct upon that The house might reoccasion. collect

collect that a bill had been brought in in consequence of Lord King having demanded the payment of his rents in the coin of the realm instead of the paper currency. Suppose that bill had been thrown out, agreeably to the views of the hon. gentleman who wished at the time that the law should take its course, and that creditors should be defended in demanding their payments in coin-what would have been the result in that case? Would not the ounce of gold have fallen the very next day to 31. 10s? Would there have been no inconvenience in an alteration in the value of the currency to that With what grace could amount? the honourable gentleman reproach him now with an alteration of only 5 per cent., to take place in four years, he having himself advocated a measure which would have caused a depreciation of 15 per cent. in a single day? The hon. member proceeded to controvert the arguments set forth by the hon, mover in a pamphlet recently published. It was there admitted that the prices of the Continent had fallen since 1814 no less than 254 It was asserted that per cent. those of England had fallen 444, and it was inferred that the fall was entirely owing to the alteration in the value of the currency. Now there had been no alteration of currency in the markets of Amsterdam, from which the first depreciation was taken: the fair inference would have been, that the alteration of our currency had caused a depreciation equal to the difference of these two sums, or 19 per After going though various other objections which he took to the contents of the same pamphlet, he went on to justify the opinions

which he had given before the bullion committee from an attack which had been made upon them in another pamphlet by the hon. member for Callington. He objected to the motion. It was too late to make any new alteration in the currency. The difficultiesof the measure of 1819 were now chiefly got over. The people were reconciled to it. He disputed the accuracy of the assertion, that the agriculturists suffered, and the public annuitant gained, by that measure; several of the public creditors gained, but many of them who lent their money before the depreciation lost. If it were not for the odious and absurd corn laws. agriculture might revive as well as the other interests. For his own part he should have no great objection to the inquiry, and he really thought that it would be only a just punishment on his honourable friend to give him his motion. He would of course be chairman of his own committee, and tired enough he would be of his office, by the time he had adjusted all the interests relative to his new modus in the payment of tithes, rents, taxes, and other dues. However, the measure was only calculated to produce strange and alarming fluctuations in all the transactions of commerce and agriculture; and for this, together with the other reasons which he had advanced, he must oppose the motion.

The Marquis of Titchfield and Mr. Baring afterwards spoke; after

which,

Lord Folkestone rose to move the adjournment of the question, as there were many hon. members who wished to deliver their sentiments upon it.

Mr. Canning wished, in consequence

quence of the business which stood for Thursday, that the debate should be adjourned till Tuesday next.

After some conversation, in which Mr. Broughom, Sir James Macintosh, Mr. H. G. Bennet, and Mr. Goulburn participated, as to the day to which the debate should be adjourned, it was agreed that it should stand for Thursday.

Mr. Hume postponed his motion relative to the Irish government

till the 19th instant.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the house adjourned.

House of Lords, June 12.—The Duke of Somerset brought up the report of the committee on weights and measures.

A petition was presented for a clause in the bill now before the house to make the marriage of Roman Catholics by priests of their own persuasion legal.

On the motion of the Marquis of Lansdown, the Irish joint tenancy bill went through a committee. The report to be received to-morrow. The noble marquis observed, in order to correct an erroneous opinion which prevailed both in this country and in Ireland, that the bill did not take away any existing franchise whatever.

The Marquis of Lansdown moved the commitment of the Irish grand

jury presentment bill.

The Earl of Donoughmore thought the subject needed farther enquiry, and moved as an amendment, that the bill be committed on Monday next, and that the parties be heard by counsel in support of what they deemed to be their vested rights.

After some conversation, the amendment was agreed to.

1823.

The Marquis of Lansdown rose to move the second reading of the dissenters' marriage bill, the object of which was to enable dissenters to have the marriage ceremony performed in their own respective churches.

It was opposed by the Lord Chancellor, the Archbishop of Cunterbury, the bishops of Worcester, Chester, and Llundaff. Lord Calthorpe approved the principle of the bill, as did Lord Liverpool.

Lord Ellenborough said, the real object of this bill was to relieve religious scruples, and nothing else. The right reverend prelate asserted that the moral and religious interests of the community would not be safe under the provisions of this Now, he thought those interests were not much advanced by forcing persons, in despite of their religious scruples, to an occasional The right reverend conformity. prelate admitted that the subject demanded consideration. then, would be not go into a committee, and see whether the bill could not be rendered satisfactory? With respect to the alteration of the liturgy, he doubted whether it could be effected, so as to in-clude all dissenters, without doing that to which he had a most serious objection—namely, converting marriage into a mere civil ceremony. There were few things which gave him more pain than to see the right reverend bench always thus indisposed to give relief to What was retender consciences. quired of the legislature by this bill was but very little: what the legislature at present required of the dissenters was a very grievous obligation. He wished to see noble lords adhere to those liberal principles of legislation; he was anxious

to see the right reverend bench adopt those principles, which would reflect much more honour on the Church of England than those which he had taken occasion to deprecate. Under these circumstances, he warmly supported the second reading of the bill.

After a few remarks from the Earl of Carnarvon, the house divided: For the second reading, 21—

against it, 27.

The Lord Chancellor observed, on the bringing up of the new marriage act report, that having well considered this measure, he had prepared a clause which he should be enabled to submit to the house to-morrow.

The farther consideration of the report was adjourned till to-mor-

row. — Adjourned.

House of Commons, June 12.— Upon the motion of Mr. Kennedy, the transfer of securities (Scotland) bill was read a third time, and passed.

The brimstone duties' drawback bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed on Mon-

day.

The assessed taxes' composition bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed on Monday.

Mr. Herries moved the second reading of the post-horse duties bill.

Mr. J. P. Grant objected to the clause which increased the duty on horses hired for the day. He believed that the house was not aware that it was intended to increase the existing duties.

After a few words from Mr. Herries, the bill was read a second

time

Mr. Denman presented a petition from certain inhabitants of

Liverpool, praying that the house would take into consideration the mode of forming juries in England, with a view of remedying the evils The petiwhich attached to it. tioners complained, amongst other things, that great inconvenience and injustice arose from the circumstance of a particular class of persons only being summoned to serve on grand juries. In consequence of this mode of proceeding, the grand jury of the county of Lancaster bad become a sort of standing jury, the names being continually same placed on the panels. The petitioners attributed the failure of justice in the trials of the Manchester Yeomanry mainly to the manner in which the grand jury of Lancashire was nominated.

Mr. G. Philips said, that it certainly had created no little surprise in his mind, that the grand jury had thrown out the bills which were preferred against the Manchester Yeomanry. He was of opinion the subject of the nomination of grand juries should undergo a complete investigation.

Mr. Denman observed, that one of the statements of the petitioners was, that the number of persons who had served as grand jurors in Lancashire, during the last twelve years, was only 38; whereas it

ought to have been 163.

Lord J. Russell presented a petition from the Freemasons of Ireland, praying that they might be exempted from the operation of the secret oaths bill (Ireland.)

Dr. Phillimore presented a petition from the Rev. Dr. Poynder, praying that the Roman Catholics of England might be placed upon the same footing as those of Ireland, with respect to the performance of the marriage ceremony.

Sir J. Mucintosk presented a petition from the flax-dressers and spinners of Knaresborough, against the reduction of duties on tow.

Sir. G. Noel said, that on the 3rd of March last he presented a petition from the lady describing herself as the Princess Olive of Cumberland, praying that house might take her case into consideration. He now rose to move that that petition be printed, and at the same time to give notice, that on Wednesday next he would move that it be referred to a committee. He thought it was full time that this question should be decided one way or the other. He thought that it was not to the credit of ministers, that this matter should be suffered to remain so long undetermined. If this lady was an impostur, it was for the credit of the Royal Family that that fact should be put out of doubt; but if she was not, it was still not for the credit of the Royal Family that her case should be so long neglect-He had no object in view but that of respect for the Royal Family, and a wish that justice should be done in bringing this question forward.—The petition was ordered to be printed.

Mr. Hume presented a petition from Mr. Thomas Hodson, a shipowner of the port of London, praying that the duty on hemp might be reduced as low as that on fo-

reign flax.

On the motion of Mr. Hume, there was ordered to be laid before the house a return of the number of prosecutions to conviction in the Court of Exchequer in Scotland, for breaches of the excise laws; the names of the parties; the amount of the fines, and the manner in which they were applied; also a return of the number of cases settled by compromise.

Mr. Hume presented a petition from a person named John Clayton, complaining of having been dismissed from the coal meters' office, without just cause, or without compensation, after a service of several years.

The honourable member intimated his intention of bringing the subject of the coal meters' regulations before the house in the next session.

Mr. Thomas Ellis presented a petition from the brewers of Dublin, Cork, and Waterford, complaining of the injurious effects upon their business by the great reduction in the duties on Irish spirits. petitioners stated, that, by the reduction of the duties on Irish spirits; whisky could be sold in Ireland for about one half of its present price, by which the consumption of malt liquor would be very materially diminished. The general use of spirits was most injurious to the morals of any people. was well known (the honourable member added) that the people of Ireland, as indeed the inhabitants of every nation in a state of semibarbarism, (which was unfortunately the case at present with the greater part of that country,) were much addicted to the use of strong spirits—a habit which had been productive of the worst consequence to their morals, and to the peace of the country. The recent alterations in the duties were therefore most injurious, in making whisky so much cheaper.

Mr. C. W. Wynn informed the house that the East India Company had agreed to pay 60,000% a-year on account of half-pay and penaions U 2

sions to his Majesty's forces serving in the East Indies. As it was necessary for that arrangement to be ratified by parliament, he gave notice that he should to-morrow, move a resolution in ratification of it, in a committee of the whole house. At the same time he should move that the house should approve of the establishment of a Supreme Court of Judicature at Bombay; and also of certain alterations that were about to be made in the existing provisions as to the pension to the Judges of the Indian Courts of Judicature on retirement; and also to the granting a retiring pension to the Recorder of Prince of Wales's island. He should likewise refer to the committee certain provisions respecting the allowances to the Bishop of Calcutta, and the pensions on retirement to him and the several archdeacons in his diocese.

Mr. Huskisson presented a petition from several owners of houses at Liverpool, complaining of the difficulty of ejecting tenants from tenements which they held over, and praying the house to adopt some means of removing it.

Mr. Peel laid on the table a petition from the inhabitants of Belfast, complaining of the high price of coals imported into Ireland, and praying for some alteration in the coal duties.

Mr. F. Buxton moved, that there be laid on the table of the house the items of account of a sum of 2,200,000 francs paid by France, under the convention of 1814, in discharge of certain claims on property captured at Bordeaux; also an account of the application of the said sum; also copies of any letters which might have been received from the Duke of Wel-

lington, addressed to Earl Bathurst, or the Secretary of State for Foreign. Affairs, in the months of March and April 1814, regarding the ships captured at Bordeaux; and various other papers relative to the said subject.—Ordered.

Mr. Western moved the order of the day for resuming the adjourned debate on the resumption of cash payments.

The Speaker having read the

original resolution,

Mr. Wodehouse and Mr. Jumes spoke in favour of "an equitable

adjustment of contracts."

Lord Folkestone followed, and moved, as an amendment to the original motion, the following addition, "and also to consider further of some remedy for the consequences of such alteration in the currency, and among other things the practicability of establishing an equitable mode to adjust contracts."

Mr. Peel declined any prefatory remarks upon a subject so fully and frequently discussed. He considered this a most improper time to introduce the motion. The transactions of the country had been conducted now for two years upon the faith of two distinct decisions of the house, against entertaining the motion. He would consider the question under this view. Did the general interests of the country require the house to go into a revision of the currency; and have any persons suffered so injuriously and unequally as to make an equitable adjustment of contracts necessary? Distinguishing for while between mercantile agricultural interests, could any man doubt that, with respect to the commerce and manufactures of the country, all the lamentable predictions which had been pronounced in that house had failed? While

they

they were the wonder and admiration of Europe, they were too apt to fall into despondency—they were, with respect to the nation, too great hypochondriacs. He would be seech the house only to look at the manufacturing and commercial interests, and say whether they did not present the most satisfactory indications of prosperity. He knew that it would be easy for some gentlemen to state, that, in particular parts of the country with which they were connected, some distress was still felt; but he would compare the general state of those interests at the present period with that which had prevailed at other times since 1817, when the causes which were said to have been produced by the act of 1819 could not He knew that the bave existed. agricultural and other interests had been affected by the change of the currency, but he denied that the act of 1819 was the cause. would prove that the same evils had been pointed out before the adoption of that measure. For this purpose he must take the liberty of referring to a very able speech of the hon, and learned member for Winchelsea (Mr. Brougham), which was a valuable record of the then condition of the manufacturing interests. He hoped the house would not consider it unimportant to the argument, that the change of the currency had affected that great mass of the community upon whose labours the prosperity of the country in no small degree depended. he should seek to show that they enjoyed greater comforts now than at any former period-if he could prove to the satisfaction of the house that this class of the people enjoyed in peace the honest fruits of their industry, he

thought he might fairly urge that as a reason why the house should not tamper with the currency. The hon. member for Winchelsea, at the end of a speech delivered in that house on the 13th of March, 1817, on the subject of the trade and manufactures, had proposed resolutions, one of which was, "That the trade and manufactures of the country are reduced to a state of such unexampled difficulty as demands the serious attention of this house." In the course of that speech, the hon, member went through the principal branches of the manufacturing interests, pointed out the distresses under which they laboured, and asked how, if such was the condition of the manufacturing classes, was it possible that the agricultural interests could prosper? The hon, and learned gentleman quoted on this subject, from Mr. Child, the following passage:-" Trade and land are knit each to other, and must wax and wane together; so that it shall never be well with land but trade must feel it, nor ill with trade but land must fall." Following the course which the hon, and learned gent. had pursued on the occasion to which he alluded, he (Mr. Peel) should proceed to show the contrasted prosperity which the manufacturing classes at present enjoyed, and to convince the house, as he hoped, that better prospects must arise from that improvement, to the agricultural interest. He had, early in the present year, addressed letters to those local and municipal authorities which were best calculated to furnish the information he wanted, inquiring of them minute particulars respecting the manufacturing interests in their particular districts. He should ap-

ply the result of those inquiries to the points urged by the hon, and learned gent., because he thought that would be a fairer course than to mention them arbitrarily, and as might best suit the purposes of his own argument. He would begin, therefore, with the clothing district; in which that hon, and learned gentleman had said that, in 1816, from the calculations which had been furnished to him, there were only 757 men in full, and 1439 in partial work, while 1164 were entirely The account which he (Mr. Peel) had received from Huddersfield was, that at the present time the working classes were better employed than they had ever been: that the wages of spinners was 25s. per week, those of weavers from 18s. to 21s. per week; that the people were in perfect tranquillity, and that the number of buildings The poor's-rates, had increased. which had been 10s. in the pound from 1815 to 1821, fell in the latter year to 8s. 4d., and in 1822 were reduced to 6s. 8d. Sheffield, though not a part of the clothing manufacture, was so important a place, that he might be allowed to mention it here. The poor's-rate in that town had amounted, in 1820, to 36,000l.; in 1821, to 35,000l.; in 1822, to 19,500l.; and it was estimated that, in the current year, it would be only 13,000l. The buildings had been going on in a state of satisfactory increase, and tenants were procured for the new houses without difficulty. Could there be a greater proof of the advantage which must result to agriculturists? The number of consumers being increased. the relief to the growers was certain. When the last census was taken, at which period the Bank

restriction was in operation, there were 1600 houses untenanted in this town-in the last year there was not one. At Halifax, the labouring classes were generally well off; the poor-rates had been reduced, and a large increase had been made in the number of houses, which were let at from 71. to 81. per annum. So much for the clothing towns. He would next proceed to Birmingham, which presented a fair symptom of the condition of the iron trade in general. In 1817, out of a population of 84,000 souls, 27,000 received parochial relief. One third of them were out of employment, the others only at half work; and the poor-rate amounted to between 50,000l. and 60,000l. In answer to the inquiries which he (Mr. Peel) had made, he learned that the working classes were now well employed; that there was no complaint, no disloyalty; and that in the town of Birmingham 425 houses had been built in the year 1822. The poor-rate which, from 1817 to 1820, had been 52,000l., in 1821 was only 47,000l. and in 1822 only 20,000l. having been reduced considerably more than half in the last two years. Were these, then, not proofs that the working classes were in a condition of comparative prosperity? He came then to Manchester, of which the hon. and learned gent. had, in his speech, drawn a most melancholy picture; but, he regretted to say, not more melancholy than true. He had taken the pains to calculate the average rate of wages of 1000 men for a week. During the restricted currency it appeared from that calculation that in 1802 they amounted to 13s. 2d. per week; in 1812, to 6s. 4d.; in 1816, to 5s. 2d.; and

and in 1817, the melancholy and alarming period at which he spoke, to 4s. 34d. He might well have asked how it was possible for these people to support existence; and naturally paused at receiving for answer, "that these miserable beings could barely purchase with their hard and scanty earnings half a pound of oatmeal daily, which, mixed with a little salt and water, constituted their whole food." Such was then the condition of the cotton-trade. Now it was carried to a greater extent than had ever before been known; the profits of the mastera, it was true, are not large; but all classes were comfortable. The buildings had increased; the county was tranquil; the wages of fine spinners now amounted to 30s. per week:-he was sure the house would feel interested in these details, homely as they were, and he did not fear exciting a smile on such an occasion;—those of the coarse spinners from 20s. to 28s.; those of weavers to 16s,, and those of silkweavers to 16s. The poor-rates in 1820 had been 23,000*l.*; and in the three quarters of the year 1823 they had only amounted to 15.000l. In Bolton, which contained 86 townships, the population had increased by 8000 persons, and 850 new buildings had been erected. Here he closed all he had to say upon the manufacturing interests; but he would ask whether any stronger proof could be given than was contained in the details with which he had troubled the bouse, that, for the advantage of their interests, at least, there was no necessity for revising the currency? He would ask, not attributing to the bill of 1819 the merit of having caused this improvement, whether it would not be unreasonable and rash to make any alteration in it? He now approached the subject of the agricultural interests. He admitted that they laboured under a grievous depression; but the question now was, whether this had been caused by the reatoration of a metallic currency, and whether a revision or equitable adjustment of all contracts could remedy or relieve it? Referring to another speech of the hon, member for Winchelsee in 1816, and to a speech of the hon, member for Essex (Mr. Western) in the same year, both of which had been, as they deserved to be, printed in the shape of pamphlets, it was there stated that the agricultural interests were then depressed at least as much as they are now. hon. gentleman proceeded to argue, that, according to the showing of those hon. members, by the speeches referred to, the causes of the agricultural distress were in no way connected with the currency, but proceeded from the long war and the unnatural impulse which had been given to speculations in land. The change of the currency had had no other effect upon the agricultural interests than to arrest that alarming depression which it was then suffering. He was satisfied that no change in the currency could produce any effect upon the agricultural interest which would be worth the risk which must attend such a measure. He would suppose that the standard had been fixed as the noble lord (Folkestone) would have it, at 41. 1s., instead of 31. 16s., would that have done any good? That could only have operated to the effect of about 3 per cent., and the complaint was, that the agricultural interests had suffered a depression of 50 per cent. He must suppose suppose the hon, gents, opposite meant by their cheers to concur with him; if so, he would ask whether it was worth while, for 3 per cent., to alter the standard? He then addressed himself to the only point remaining—that of the question, whether it was for the interests of England that all the contracts should be disturbed? professed the same opinion now as he had done in 1819, and thought the addition to the burdens which the measure of that year had occasioned was amply compensated by the advantages which had resulted from it. The noble marquis (of Titchfield) asked why any objection should be made to an equitable adjustment-a proposition which was in itself so fair and just. (Mr. Peel) answered, simply because he could see no possible means of accomplishing such an object. Who could tell who were the creditors and who the debtors. when the individuals were constantly changing? " But," the noble lord, "I borrowed money when the pound-note was worth only 13s., and I am called upon to pay it back when it is worth 20s." The noble lord seemed to forget that it had been many times at other and higher values, and even above 20s. He wished to know whether the hon, gent, agreed with him, that, as it was impossible to fix the Mint price of gold, so it would be absurd to attempt to effect adjustment. It appeared, then, by the showing of his adversary, that the depression had been caused, not by the bill of 1819, but by the contraction of the currency and other effects of the peace. then, all the contracts since that period must be set aside, and placed upon the same footing as those

since 1819. These, the noble lord (Folkestone) said, were few; but how could be reconcile this with the opinion of his noble friend (the Marquis of Titchfield), who said, that during the last two years there had been a great revolution in property? These arguments must pair off together, or, like opposite numbers in an equation, must destroy. The hon. member each other. for Essex, who last year proposed only to attack the contracts since 1816, now recommended the adjustment of every contract since 1796. Let him consider how the changes in the currency which had happened since that period must affect the money contract of various individuals. It would not be fair that the settled contracts should not be adjusted as well as those which remained, because that would be withholding from the man who had faithfully performed his engagements, a relief which was extended to him who had failed in them; and how was it possible that the public could have any future faith in the decisions of the house? The noble lord (Lord Folkestone) had stated one instance only of ruin which had befallen a gentleman who had purchased land; but he had not stated what part of his friend's loss was to be attributed to improvident speculation, and what part to the change of currency. If improvident speculations were to be the subject of equitable adjustment, why should the noble lord limit that adjustment to speculators in land? Why not extend it equally to every commodity? which assuredly would give enough employment to any committee. The noble lord (the Marquis of Titchfield) had stated that we were in such a state that we were unable to go to war;

war; but what, he would ask, would the equitable adjustment, on a change of the standard, do towards furnishing the means of prosecuting a war with success? The right hon, gent, then adverted to a passage in Mr. Western's pamphlet, which glanced at an increased issue of paper as beneficial; but he (Mr. Peel) would never be one to vote for any tampering with the cur-From the improvement which had taken place in our commerce, he augured well for agriculture; and because he did not see the possibility of adjusting the one ten thousandth part of the contracts entered into since 1793, from the reasons which he had heard and understood, and from those which had not been explained, he should decidedly vote against the proposed

inquiry. Mr. H. G. Bennet ridiculed the argument against inquiry drawn from the period of the session to which we had arrived, particularly when it was recollected that parliument had been kept sitting the whole year, on one occasion, to give countenance to perjury and fraud, and to give effect to the efforts of malice and treachery; and could it be thought that the house would be less willing to extend the usual time of its sitting if it were necessary to do an act of justice? He contended, that from the coincidence in several instances (which he adduced) of high prices of commedities with a large issue of paper, and low prices when the issue of paper was diminished, that the whole of the evils which we had sustained were ascribable to the measure of 1819. The right hon. 'gentleman' had quoted the poor-rate of two or three places; it would have been well if he had given the amount of the whole kingdom. In 1812, it appeared that we paid in a depreciated paper currency 6,656,000l. the year ending March last, we paid in a metallic currency 6,300,000l. So that estimating the rates of 1812 by the standard of what they would now command of the necessaries of life in metallic currency, they only could be said to amount to 3,300,000l.; and it thence appeared we were twice as poor, twice as distressed, as we were in 1812. He attributed great part of the misery in Ireland last year to fluctuations in the currency; and contended the inquiry was fitting, if it were only to show to posterity the necessity for the injustice which we committed, and the impossibility of finding a remedy for it.

Mr. Huskisson apologized for troubling the house on a subject which he had so frequently discussed; but the manner in which he had been called upon by some hon. members compelled him to The feeling with say a few words. which he came down to the house was, an expectation that the hon. member for Essex, following the example of the hon baronet (Sir T. Lethbridge), and yielding to the reasons which had swayed him. would have withdrawn his motion: particularly as, in addition to the reasons which induced the hon. baronet to come to that determination, there was this circumstance in the case of the hon, member for Essex—that since he first agitated this question another year had elapsed, under which the country had had this condemned currency: and it was agreed on all hands, that the longer it existed, the greater was the difficulty of any change.

change. The hon. gentleman (Mr. Bennet) had himself acknowledged that the inquiry was desperate as to any practical relief. The noble lord (the Marquis of Titchfield) had stated, as a necessity for inquiry, that their aristocracy would be ruined, torn from their paternal estates, and reduced to seek a miserable existence in a foreign land: that, certainly was a highly coloured picture. Another ground of inquiry was, that so long as the present state of the currency existed, we were so crippled that we were unable to go to war. If he (Mr. Huskisson) were persuaded that there was the slightest foundation for the fears of the noble lord, the evils were of so grave a nature, he should seek a remedy at whatever risk. Another topic was, the universal distress of all classes in the country; as a proof of which the honourable gentleman (Mr. Bennet) adduced the state of the poor-rates. If the bonourable gentleman's statement was correct. it would not surprise him (Mr. Huskisson) that the poor-rates had increased with our increasing population, and in consequence of the growth of abuse in the system, which was but too liable to be The distress in Ireland last year was, he contended, solely attributable to the failure of the potatoe-crop; and in proof that it was so, in the present year, there was no difficulty in that country maintaining its population, though the currency was now the same as in the last year, when the hon. member attributed the distress of the country to that cause. order to attain the object of the hon, member (Mr. Western), we must agree upon what was the standard by which we were to

measure the depreciation; and then it must be determined at what time the depreciation began, and to what degree it extended. It had been said the depreciation commenced in 1793; but what ground was there for it? Certainly none with reference to the weight and fineness of the coin, though from 1808 to 1814 there certainly was a considerable departure from that standard. The hon. member for Norfolk (Mr. Wodehouse) had referred to some opinion of his (Mr. Huskisson's) given in 1815, in which he supposed there was some inconsistency with those he now maintained as to the price at which corn could be grown in this country; but he (Mr. Huskisson) contended that the experience of the last two years (during which it was urged the farmers had not had a remunerating price) formed no argument to impeach the consistency of his opinion. Hestill maintained that corn could not be grown in this country so cheap as it was in 1790. The noble lord (the Marquis of Titchfield) stated the fall of rents at 25 or 30 per cent.; but then it should be recollected that they had previously been doubled, and that circumstance had relieved his (Mr. Huskisson's) mind from the dread of seeing the whole of the present race of landlords swept away; and he was persuaded that persons possessing an estate without incumbrances, would be in a better situation than persons who had employed their capital in any other way. The great evil of the depreciation of the currency was where owners of land had their estates encumbered (from no fault of their own) by mortgages for the provision of younger branches

of the family; and for their misfortune there seemed to be no remedy. But it was most absurd to suppose that the lands of this country could become barren under the circumstances which had been stated by his right hon, friend (Mr. Peel.)

The Marquis of Titchfield denied having made such a statement.

Mr. Huskisson had certainly understood the noble lord to have stated that all rents would disappear; he had undoubtedly dwelt upon the impoverishment of the aristocraey; but it was impossible to suppose that the incumbrances could absorb all the rental of the nobility and gentry of this country. The noble lord did not appear very sanguine as to the practicability of the equitable adjustment: he (Mr. Huskisson) would not fatigue the house by going into any detail, to show the utter impracticability of such an adjustment. They had heard a little the other night about the Court of Chancery; but if the principle of equitable adjustment were to be acted upon, it would be necessary to have more Courts of Chancery than public-houses at present; and even then it would be impossible to dispose of all the cases in thirty years. The honourable member for Taunton had stated that the fall in the value of the precious metals was not only affected by banking operations in our own country, but by the paper issues of America, Austria, Denmark, and Russia: so that if the principle of the hon. gentleman (Mr. Western) were once admitted, it followed that we were at the mercy of those powers, so far as regarded our standard of

value; and America had only to make an issue of paper, by which the value of money would be lowered, and then we must have a committee in order to fix what the This was value of money was. contrary to every principle laid down by law, by the late Lord Liverpool, and every other writer on the subject: it was contrary to every statute passed since the time of Elizabeth, hy which it was recognized that the standard of a country once fixed, it should be immutable; and that standard did not, as he had been taught, consist of a comparison of one thing with another, but in the quantity and fineness of the coin of the country. He contended that the capacity of this country to go to war, if its honour or interest required it, sufficiently proved by the Was 25,000,000 of taxes which had been repealed since the peace; and though some were particularly burdensome, the country would cheerfully bear their re-imposition, rather than its honour should be tarnished. After some farther observations, the bonourable gentleman concluded by declaring that he should opense the motion.

Mr. Monck and Mr. Atwood made a few observatious; after which,

Mr. Western rose amidst loud cries of "Question," and said that he would wave his privilege of reply on account of the impatience manifested by the house.

The house then divided: the numbers were.—For the motion, 27—Against it, 96.—Adjourned.

House of Lords, June 13.—
A message from the Commons brought up the silk-manufacturers'

anc

and Ireland law offices' compensation bills, which were read a first time.

On the farther consideration of the report on the marriage-law

The Lord Chancellor proposed a clause in place of that which at present stands in the bill, by which all property acquired by means of a marriage solemnized contrary to the act, by fraudulent means, should be forfeited. The clause which he now proposed was to extend the penalties to marriages by bans as well as by; licence. He would also propose a shorter period than three years for the legal proceedings to commence. At present, he would move that the clause be printed, and the report farther considered on Monday.

The Earl of Westmorland agreed to the course proposed by the noble and learned lord, though, from what he could perceive of the clause, it would not remove any. of the objections which he entertained to the principle on which it was founded.

The Marquis of Lansdown gave notice, that at a very early period of the next session of parliament, he should bring in a bill to relieve the Dissenters from certain grievances of which they complained in the solemnization of marriage.

On the motion of Lord Sidmouth, the house went into a committee on the prison laws' consolidation bill.

On the clause which authorizes magistrates to order a prisoner into close confinement for a month, for any breach of the discipline of the prison,

Lord Sidmouth remarked, that by this clause the power of inflicting corporeal punishment by the

gaoler, which had been sanctioned by three acts of parliament, was repealed. This power he considered absolutely necessary in some cases; as where an offender was committed to prison, and to be kept to hard labour. There had been examples of persons so committed, who had absolutely refused to comply with their sentence till rendered tractable by the threat of corporeal punishment. On such persons, and on convicted felons, he should therefore propose, that the power of inflicting corporeal punishment should be given to the gaolers under the orders of the magistrate. His lordship concluded by moving an amendment to that effect.

The question on the amendment was put, and it was agreed to without a division. The other clauses of the bill were then gone through, and the report ordered to be received on Tuesday next.

The II rish joint tenancy bill was read a third time and passed.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, June 13.— The committee on the poor laws' amendment bill was postponed by Mr. Nolan till Friday.

Petitions were presented against the duty on coals—the importation of yarn—one for and one against an increased duty on barilla-against certain practices in the victualling office.

Mr. Dawson moved that the report on the gas-light establishments be referred to a select committee.

Mr. D. Gilbert said a few words in opposition to the motion, after which it was agreed to.

Leave was given to Mr. Browning to bring in a bill to allow farther time for the completion of the

London docks.—The bill was afterwards brought in and read a first time.

Mr. J. Smith brought up the report of the committee on the law of merchants.—It was ordered that it should be printed.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved that the house resolve itself into a committee on the barilla duties' acts.

The house then went into the committee.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, that it was not his intention to establish a permanent law imposing a high duty upon barilla for the purpose of encouraging the manufacture of kelp: his measure was merely temporary. There were peculiar considerations belonging to this case, which induced him to extend to the kelp-makers such relief and protection as was practicable. . He fairly owned that the distress among them extremely great: not less than from 80,000 to 100,000 persons were in some way or other employed in this branch of trade; and from motives of bumanity it was necessary to do something He therefore proposed for them. a resolution for raising the existing duty on barilla from five to eight guiness: the new duty to begin on the 5th of January, 1824, and to continue for five years.

Mr. Campbell strongly supported the resolution, observing, that if it were not carried, 2,000 persons on his own estate only would be thrown out of employ.

Mr. Ricardo controverted some of the arguments printed and circulated by the opponents of the increase of duty, and contended that the best and only ground on which the resolution could be supported

was that of humanity. The same reasons that now induced the Chancellor of the Exchequer to suggest this augmentation would exist at the end of five years to warrant its continuance. He objected to temporary expedients of this kind, and to the principle on which they were established.

Mr. G. Bennet thought previous investigation absolutely necessary. It was easy to appeal to humanity, but it might not be easy to tell how much self-interest influenced that appeal on the part of certain gentlemen. He required that the distress and the necessity for this augmentation should be made out to the satisfaction of a committee. He apprehended that this was a case like that of the Scilly Isles some time ago, when large sums had been most improperly taken from the public on a grossly exaggerated statement of distress.

The committee divided, when the numbers were:—For the resolutions, 100—Against them, 20.

The Chancellor of the Exchanger having moved the order of the day for receiving the report of the new beer bill,

The report being brought up,

Mr. Dennison opposed receiving the report, and moved that it be received this day six months. Mr. Monck, Mr. Maberly, Mr. Bernal, and other members, spoke upon the same side.

The house then divided:—For the amendment, 26—For receiving the report, 32.

On the motion that the report should be read,

The Marquis of Titchfield moved that it be recommitted.

A second division took place upon this point, when the numbers were— For the report, 36—Against it, 26.

I ne

The order of the day was read for going into the consideration of the report of the judicial commission on the management of the Court of the Chief Baron.

Mr. Scarlett objected to bringing forward the inquiry at this time. After considerable discussion, it was fixed for Tuesday next.

The East India mutiny bill was read the second time.—To be committed on Monday.

The East India trade bill was read the second time.—To be committed on Monday.—Adjourned.

House of Lords, June 16.—A message from the Commons brought up the St. Andrew's, Holborn, tithe,

and several private bills.

The Lord Chancellor said, that he had a petition put into his hands, which, as it contained nothing disrespectful in its language, and related to a measure of very great importance to the petitioners, he thought it his duty to present. As to what related to the weavers as manufacturers, he was a very incompetent judge; but he trusted their lordships would consider it attentively, and he also trusted that the petitioners would continue to deserve it, as they had hitherto done, by their peaceable and orderly conduct.

The petition, which was from the journeymen weavers of London against the repeal of the Spitalfields acts, was then read.

The Earl of Liverpool said, the bill, against the passing of which these petitioners prayed, was, if he recollected rightly, considered by committees of both houses as necessary to be passed, and those committees certainly did not believe it would be injurious: it was, on the contrary, in the conviction

that the alteration was essential to the interests of both the labouring and master weavers that the measure was brought in. It however appeared that a very large body of his Majesty's subjects were against the passing of this bill. On any occasion, before their lordships adopted a measure of this kind, they would be disposed to give the most patient hearing to the parties interested; and if there could be any additional motive to weigh with their lordships, it would be from the quiet, orderly, and peaceable behaviour of this body of men. He spoke not from their conduct during the agitation of this measure, but on former occasions, when the poor had laboured under the pressure of scarcity or famine; and under the most trying circumstances their conduct had been orderly and loval. tle knew not whether it was not going out of the way to state this, but he felt that he should not be doing justice to this class of men if he had notcalled their lordships' attention to His lordship concluded by proposing that, agreeably to a standing order of the house, this bill (as relating to trade) should be referred in the first instance to a committee, to consist of all those lords who had attended during the session; and the committee to meet on Wednesday next, and the parties to be heard. The present petition also to be referred to that committee.

The Clerk having read the standing order, after a few words from the Earl of Lawderdule the motion of the Earl of Liverpool was agreed to.

Lord Ellenborough said, he had two petitions to present to their lordships to the same effect as that that which had just been read. The first was from 179 of the master weavers (the whole of their number consisted, he believed, of 300) within the operation of the bill, and they prayed that it might not pass into a law. The other petition was from 10,500 inhabitants of St. Matthew Bethnal-green, who thought that the passing this bill would be productive of the worst possible effects as regarded the poor-rates.

Lord Kenyon presented a petition against the bill from the inhabitants of Mile-end New Town.

Lord Calthorpe presented a petition to the same effect from the inhabitants of Church-street, Bethnal-green.

The several petitions were read, and ordered to be referred to the committee on the bill.

The Earl of Darnley presented a petition from certain inhabitants of Middlesex and Surrey, praying their lordships' attention to the state of Ireland.

The Earl of Aberdeen proposed to postpone the farther consideration of the Scotch entails' bill till Friday next; which, after a few words from Lard Rosslyn and the Earl of Lauderdale, was agreed to.

On the farther consideration of the report on the marriage act, the Earl of Westmorland opposed the new clause of forfeiture introduced by the noble and learned lord on the woolsack: not that he objected to the principle of the clause, than which nothing could be more just, but that the operation of it would be injurious as the clause was at present worded.

The Lord Chancellor defended the clause.

In compliance with a suggestion of the Earl of Westmorland, the Lord Chancellor agreed to have the clause in question, as well as some others consequent upon it, supposing it were agreed to, printed and taken into consideration on a future day.

The Marquis of Lansdown moved the order of the day for going into a committee on the Irish grand jury presentments' bill.

Counsel were then, according to order, directed to be called in to

argue against the bill.

The Earl of Donoughmore objected to the mode of proceeding which had been determined upon respecting the bill. He understood that counsel were to be heard tonight against the bill, but that the discussion was not to take place till to-morrow. He thought it proper that the discussion should take place immediately after the speeches of counsel. After a short conversation between the Marquis of Lansdown and Lord Donoughmore, it was arranged that counsel should be heard to-morrow at five o'clock, and that the debate upon the bill should immediately follow.—Their lordships then adjourned.

House of Commons, June 16.— The St. Andrew's, Holborn, tithes composition bill was read a third

time, and passed.

The Limerick (city) local taxation bill was read a third time, and (after a short discussion, in which Mr. Goulburn, Mr. Dawson, Mr. H. Gurney, Mr. O'Grady, Mr. S. Rice, and Dr. Phillimore, took a part) was passed.

On the motion of Mr. Alderman Wood, the house went into a committee upon the London-bridge bill; when the grant of 150,000l., and its several clauses, were agreed

The Chairman then left his seat,

and

and it was ordered that the report should be brought up to-morrow.

Mr. Goulburn moved the order of the day, that the house go into a committee on the Irish tithes' composition bill.

On the question that the Speaker leave the chair for that purpose, after some discussion the house went into a committee, and proceeded to discuss the several clauses of the bill.

A variety of verbal alterations having been agreed to, the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Wednesday next.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the house

adjourned.

House of Lords, June 17 .-The royal assent was given by commission to the masters' and servants, the Liverpool church, and several private bills. The Commissioners were the Lord Chancellor, the Earl of Shaftesbury, and Lord Maryborough.

On the motion of Lord Sidmouth, the prison laws' consolidation bill was read the third time

and passed.

On the order of the day being read for the house going into a committee on the Irish grand jury presentment bill,

The Earl of Donoughmore moved

that counsel be called in.

Mr. Tyndall was accordingly called in, and heard on behalf of the clerks of the peace of several counties in Ireland; and, on the authority of decided cases, he contended they had a vested interest in their offices.

The Earl of Donoughmore moved as an amendment, that the operation of the bill be confined to clerks of the crown, and that clerks of the peace be omitted, which was negatived.

The report was then received. and the bill ordered to be read a third time on Monday next. -- Adjourned.

House of Commons, June 17.-The Speaker took the chair at a quarter before four o'clock; soon after which he was summoned by the Deputy Usher of the Black Rod to the House of Peers, to hear the commission read for giving the Royal assent to several bills. On his return, he informed the house of the several public and private bills to which the Royal assent had been given.—See Lords' Report.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved the third reading of the beer duties bill. It was accordingly read a third time. On the question that it do pass, the house divided—For the bill, 64—Against

i**t.** 26.

On the motion of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the house went into a committee on the prize-

money distribution bill.

Mr. Hume objected to the great delays which so often took place in the distribution of prize-money, and hoped they might be remedied.

Dr. Phillimore said the present measure was introduced to remedy a defect in some acts passed a few years ago, for regulating the distribution of prizes to foreigners in the British service (in consequence of which defect the money due to foreigners was still undistributed).

Mr. Canning said that many of the delays complained of by those who had claims to prize-money arose from themselves. seemed to prevail a very erroneous impression on this subject, which ought to be removed. It was that

of persons making applications by round-about ways, and through personal favour, instead of a direct application to the department which had charge of such affairs. As far as his observation went, he had seen every possible facility given to the claims of those who made their application directly to the proper office.

Mr. W. Williams bore testimony to the readiness with which prize claims, when made direct to the Prize-office, were attended to.

After a few words from Sir I. Coffin, who complained of the fraud practised on the unwary seamen by Jews, with respect to their prize-money, the house resumed, the report was brought up and agreed to, and the bill ordered to be read a third time to-morrow.

Sir G. Cockburn brought up the report of the London Bridge bill, which was agreed to, and the bill ordered to be read a third time on

Friday.

Mr. S. Rice moved that the house do resolve itself into a committee to consider of the conduct of the Chief Baron of the Court of Exchequer in Ireland, and also that two reports of the commissioners of inquiry into the courts of justice in Ireland be referred to the committee.

The house having gone into the committee,

Mr. S. Rice rose; after adverting to the importance of every thing connected with the administration of justice, he spoke at considerable length upon this peculiar caes. He next reminded the house, that in the year 1814, on a motion brought forward by his right honourable friend, the member for Waterford, it had been admitted on all hands that the fees exacted

in the courts of justice in Ireland demanded inquiry, and that in consequence a commission of enquiry had been instituted. commission had presented several reports; and the question on which the house had then to decide was, whether it would allow those reports to remain as waste paper. or would deal with them as the ground of inquiry and judgment on the conduct of the Chief Baron It was now the third of Ireland. session since those reports had been laid upon the table; and he trusted that when that circumstance was taken into consideration. no individual would think that he was acting wrongly in calling upon the house to decide upon them without further delay. The charge which was brought against the Chief Baron in the reports in question was, that he had taken other than the ancient fees to which he was by law entitled-that he had introduced new fees and had increased the old; and that, by such conduct, he had increased the charges of the suitor, and had violated his duty as a judge of the The honourable member concluded by moving twelve resolutions founded upon these charges. Colonel O'Grady replied.

The resolutions were then put seriatim from the chair, and the three first agreed to without a division.

The fourth resolution was virtually negatived by a motion that the Chairman do leave the chair.

After some further conversation it was proposed--"That the Chairman report progress, and ask leave to sit again."

The motion was agreed to; the house resumed, and the chairman obtained leave to sit again on Thursday.

Mr. Sergeant Onslow moved that the Usury Laws Repeal bill be committed.

On the question "That the Speaker do leave the chair," Mr. Davenport rose and opposed the motion. He contended, that a more disastrous measure for the country could not possibly be introduced. The present bill proved, more than any proposition he everrecollected to have been made to the house, the modern rage for What would the bill legislation. go to do? To overturn, at one blow, that system which their apcestors, for ages, had been anxious to establish. It would raise the interest of money to an unprecedented height, and the effect must be injurious to all classes of society. Those who wished to borrow money on the mortgage of lands, would be more especially affected by the measure. At present they could procure money by the payment of five per cent.; but let this bill pass, and they would be charged an exorbitant rate of interest. Gentlemen might say, "If one person in the market won't lend money at a reasonable rate, another will." But this did not apply to persons residing at a remote distance from town, who knew nothing about the moneymarket. He moved as an amendment-" That the bill be committed this day three months."

Mr. Ricardo argued, that money ought to be placed on the same footing as any other commodity. The lender and borrower ought to be allowed to bargain together as freely as the buyer and seller did when goods were to be disposed of. The honourable member feared that this measure would place the borrower entirely in the power of

the lender: but did the present laws alter his situation? Certainly Means were found to evade the law; for though the law said. "You shall not take more than a certain interest for your money," it could not compel a man to lend: at that particular rate; and, therefore, he who wished to borrow at all events, and he who wished to lend at as high a rate of interest as he could get, both conspired to evade the law. These laws operated precisely in the same way as the laws against exporting the coin of the realm. Now, notwithstanding those laws, did not the sale of that coin take place? The only effect of the statutes in that case was to place the traffic in the hands of bad characters who had no scruples against taking a false oath. They were encouraged to evade the law, and made a very great profit by doing so.

Mr. G. Smith said, that so far from thinking this measure injurious to that class of individuals whom the hon. member (Mr. Davenport) had particularly pointed out, viz. the country gentlemen. he declared that if he were called on to devise a bill for their relief. it should be precisely such a one as was then before the house. was shown before a committee of that house, that, in consequence of the usury laws, individuals were driven to raise money by annuities; and the consequence was, that the various charges amounted to not less than 161. per cent. He could state the cases of many persons who had been reduced to beggary in consequence of the recent failure of certain individuals who dealt largely in transactions of this nature. He happened to be chairman of the committee of

bankers

bankers, and they wished this measure not to pass, for a reason very different from that which influenced the honourable member. He thought it would raise, but they were afraid it would lower, the rate of interest. What was the case with respect to foreign countries, where no such laws were known? No interest whatsoever was oppressed in consequence of the absence of those measures. The rate of interest in Holland was now lighter than in any other part of the world, and it had long been so, except during the period There of the French revolution. was, therefore, no necessity whatever for laws to check usury, and with all their efforts they could not prevent it.

Mr. Philips hoped the bill would pass. The committee by which the question was discussed, saw most clearly the folly of those Why should the person who had money to lend be placed under different and more disadvantageous circumstances than his bon. and learned friend would be in regard to transactions in landed property? Out of all the arguments which he had heard for and against the present bill, he had heard nothing which could warrant the continuance of the existing law; he therefore supported the present motion.

Mr. T. Wilson agreed very much with what had fallen from the last speaker. Perhaps in the present state of the money market, he was not entirely disposed to support this measure; but thinking the existing law highly objectionable, he should vote for this proposition. Its adoption upon general principles would be highly

beneficial. In Holland, where commercial interests were well understood, there were no usury laws. The fact was, the interest of money could never be kept up at a high rate while it was left to itself. He felt it his duty to support the bill.

'The house then divided—For going into the committee, 38—Against it, 15.

The house then resolved itself into a committee on the bill.

Mr. M. A. Taylor objected to entering into the discussion of so momentous a measure in so thin a house.

Mr. Hobhouse spoke in favour of the bill, and of immediately proceeding with it.

The blanks were then filled up, and the house resumed.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of.—Adjourned.

House of Lords, June 18.—A message from the Commons brought up the vessels' registry, and several private bills, which were read a first time. The compensation for offices bill (Ireland) went through a committee, and was reported without amendment.

Lord Ellenborough, in the absence of the noble lord who was in the chair of the committee to whom the bill for repealing several acts relative to the silk-weavers and various petitions were referred, begged leave to present a report which had been agreed upon.

The report was read by the clerk at the table. It merely stated that the committee had met and heard counsel on the part of the petitioners, who begged to be allowed to produce evidence in a subsequent stage of the bill.

Lord Ellenborough moved the se-

cond reading on Friday, which was

agreed to.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, June 18.— Mr. Curwen presented a petition from the merchants and shipowners of Whitehaven, complaining of great inconvenience in consequence of the frequent detention of vessels having on board small articles not entered in their manifest. articles were introduced clandestinely by the sailors, and without any knowledge on the part of the They prayed that this evil might be remedied. The bon. member suggested that a remedy might be found in making it a forfeiture of wages on the part of the sailors who could be proved to be guilty of the clandestine introduction of goods, and not visit on the owners who were innocent.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said that he would give the matter his best consideration, and if he should find that the suggestion of the hon member could be adopted without injury to the revenue, it

should be adopted.

Petitions were also presented against the repeal of the duty on foreign wool—for introducing Mr. Owen's plan into Ireland for the

employment of the poor.

A petition was presented from the nobility, gentry, and clergy, of the county of Bedford, praying that the house might take some measures to prevent the practice of Hindoo widows burning themselves on the death of their husbands.

Mr. F. Buxton was anxious to call the attention of the house to this petition. It was from a most respectable body, and related to a question most interesting to the feelings of humanity. It appeared from the papers which had been

laid before the house on this subject, and from other documents equally authentic, that between 800 and 900 widows were annually consumed in our East Indian possessions on the funeral piles of their husbands. Some of these dreadful scenes were attended with circumstances the most shocking to human nature. It often happened that the same day which deprived a son of his father made him the executioner of his mother. and that he was seen applying the torch to the pile which was to consume the bodies of both. It also not unfrequently occurred, that, when the poverty of the parties was such as not to enable them to procure a sufficient quantity of fuel to consume the body, the halfconsumed victim of this horrible superstition was suffered to linger in the most dreadful agonies until fresh fuel could be procured to complete the horrid ceremony. It was revolting to all feelings of humanity, to know that the dying agonies of those unfortunates were constantly the source of coarse joke and brutal delight to the surrounding spectators. He had received a letter from a friend in India, giving a detailed account of many of those shocking spectacles. Amongst others, he mentioned that on the burning of the widow of the village barber, the friends of the party were not able to procure sufficient fuel to burn the body, and that the legs and arms hung over the fire, untouched, while the rest of the body was slowly consumed. There was another case - that of a young woman 14 years of age, who was induced by the persuasion of her friends to consent to immolate herself on the funeral pile of her deceased husband. As soon

as the unfortunate woman felt the flames, she burst from the pile. and endeavoured to escapes was, however, brought back, and cast in by her relatives. Again her resolution failed, and she escaped a second time from the dreadful scene, and cast herself into a water-course to relieve her scorched limbs; she was a second time brought back and thrown upon the burning pile. She, however, burst from it a third time, when one of the spectators pursued her and brutally cut her throat. He would not fatigue or disgust the house by mentioning other cases, though he could cite many ; but he would ask, were not these scenes to which, if possible, the government ought to put an end? That such a thing was practicable there had been already sufficient proof, for they had been put an end to by every European prince who had got possessions in India. Danes, the French, the Dutch, and Portuguese, totally prohibited them in their portions of India; and several Rajahs had accomplished the same object: so, also, might our government, if they only exerted that promptitude of decision which they exercised on so many other occasions not half so important. He carnestly hoped that the attention of the government might be directed to the subject. If something were not done in the interim, he should call the attention of the house to it early next session.

Mr. C. Wynn said that there could be no difference of opinion on the subject. All must alike deplore those melancholy effects of superstition; but the question would be how could the desire to prevent it be best carried into exe-

cution? The practice was one as old as any known in India. Certain it was, it existed as far back as the time of Alexander the Great. It had taken such deep hold of, and was founded on such strong feelings connected with the religion of the natives, that he feared any attempt to put a stop to it by force would be without effect.

Mr. Hume said that very severe regulations existed in India on the subject; but they did not extend to the actual prevention. He should deprecate any measure of that kind, which he thought would be productive of no good consequences.

Mr. Wilberforce thought if proper means were resorted to, no greater difficulty would be found in putting an end to this horrid practice, than had been in preventing another which had been stopped by the government under the Marquis Wellesley.

Mr. Forbes had once thought that it could be prevented by laws against it, but he had since had reason to alter that opinion. He thought no regulations would be sufficient to check it. The Marquis of Hastings had confessed, that the means which had been taken to prevent, had tended rather to increase, the practice. He thought force would be of no avail, but he believed that a good deal might be done by persuasion.

Mr. Money expressed his opinion to the same effect as that of the hon. member.

Mr. F. Buxton moved for copies of all correspondence between the government of India and this country on the practice of infanticide among the Hindoos; and an account of the steps to abolish it.

Mr. C. Wynn said he had no objection

jection to the motion, but he feared the result would not be found more satisfactory than in the case last before the house.

The motion was then agreed to.
The New South Wales bill (second reading) was fixed for Friday week.

Lord Binning referred to a speech of Lord A. Hamilton upon a former day, in which he charged the sheriff of Lanarkshire with partiality, and with throwing obstacles in the way of his election.

Lord A. Hamilton replied; after which, the house wishing to go into the business of the day, the matter

dropped.

Sir G. Noel called the attention of the house to the petition of the lady claiming to be Olive Princess of Cumberland, and moved that a select committee be appointed to enquire into her case.

Mr. Hume seconded the motion.

Mr. Peel stated the whole of the case, in which he proved the documents upon which she grounded her claims to be forgeries.—Motion negatived.

Mr. J. Smith having requested and obtained precedence of Mr. Goulburn's motion, for going into a committee on the Irish tithes bill, moved for leave to bring in a bill "for the better protection of the property of merchants and others."

After a few words from Mr. Robertson in favour of postponing the bill until next year, leave was

given to bring it in.

The order of the day for the committee upon the Irish tithes

being moved.

The house went into a committee, and several clauses were agreed to.

The Chairman then reported pro-

gress, and moved that the report should be received on Friday next.

Lord Nugent moved, that the order of the day for the second reading of the test regulation bill be read a second time, for the purpose of postponing it.

Several members spoke against

the principles of the bill.

It was then read a second time without a division; and, on the motion of *Lord Nugent*, was committed for Monday next.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved the second reading of the

distilleries bill (Scotch).

The bill was read the second time, and ordered to be committed to-morrow.

The Lord Advocate of Scotland moved that the order of the day for the third reading of the Scotch confirmations bill be now read.

The bill was then read a third

time, and passed.

The Lord-Advocate of Scotland moved that the order of the day for the third reading of the Scotch commissioners bill be now read.—Postponed till te-morrow.

The other orders of the day were then read, and the house ad-

journed.

House of Lords, June 19.— Lord Barham took the oaths and his seat.

Mr. Brogden, accompanied by several members of the House of Commons, brought up the brimstone duties and beer bills, which were read the first time.

The Duke of Leinster presented a petition from the Hibernian Philanthropic Society, praying the house to take into consideration the plan of Mr. Owen, for the amelioration of the condition of the poor of Ireland.

The

The Marquis of Lanedown presented a petition from certain merchants in London, concerned in the linen trade, against the Scotch linen trade bill.

The Duke of Devonshire rose, and said that it was not his intention to have occupied any portion of their lordships' time till the discussion of the insurrection act; but hearing that great delay would take place in consequence of what passed in another place, and feeling the great evil of allowing the session to terminate without devoting one night to the subject of Irelandhowever ill qualified he might feel himself -- relying on the indulgence of the house, and the support of his noble friends near him. he had ventured to come forward to draw their lordships' attention to the state of that country. All who were acquainted with the state of Ireland agreed in representing it in a state the most calamitous and alarming, and also agreed in the difficulty of applying any remedial measure; but certainly, however difficult that might be, it was a reproach to Parliament to pass severe laws suspending the rights of the people, without first attempting by liberal and conciliatory measures to effect the object. could not be denied, that the religious differences which existed in Ireland were one great cause of the evils under which she grouned; and therefore, when no relaxations of the laws which affected penally the most numerous class was attempted, it was impossible to hope for real and permanent tranquillity. This was not the time to enter into the consideration of the Catholic question, but he would impress it on their lordships, that it was only

by adopting a concidiatory policy that they could hope to cure any of the evils which now afflicted Ireland, though it was foolish to suppose that Catholic emancipation would of itself allay every discon-The whole condition of the government of Ireland, its policy and practice, demanded a prompt and thorough examination. a country presented a divided population, there was no hope of tranquillity without the most rigid and impartial administration of justice to all classes; but there was too nuch reason to fear that those who had so long held sway in Ireland had given the people occasion to doubt the purity of the system. His Majesty's ministers defended their mode of governing Ireland, by saying that their object was not to give a triumph to any party; and the result was, that the government of Ireland was completely in the hands of that small minority known by the name of Orangemen, who, conscious that they had no claim on the great body of the people, feared them; and the people, on their part, as naturally hated the In such a state of Orangemen. things, something more decisive must be done than adopting the system of giving a triumph to nei-While there existed ther party. one law for the rich, and another for the poor-one law for the Protestant, and another for the Catholic-they could never calculate on the attachment of the great body of the people. Either must be fully attached, or the government must be thrown into the hands of the Orange faction, which not only had not the confidence of the people, but had become odious in their eyes. During the last session of Parliament. Parliament, the noble earl at the head of his Majesty's government had pledged himself that the great grievance of the tithe system should be inquired into. As he had so far redeemed his pledge as the introduction of a measure in another place, he (the Duke of Devonshire) would only say that it was absolutely necessary to take some steps, as it was a tax most galling, and pressing with peculiar hardship on the country; some alteration must be made for the tranquillity of the governed, as well as for the safety of the Protestant establishment. If he were asked what was necescessary to be done, he should urge the concession of the Catholic question; the arrangement of the tithes; the abridgment of the power of that party who had so long ruled in Ireland; and, lastly, the most vigilant attention to the administration of the laws. It might be said that his Majesty's ministers were disposed to adopt some of these measures; and if so, he should say, let them be really and substantially adopted, and let them be such as to command the respect and conviction of the people. Much, certainly, depended on the government of Ireland: and he could not but express his disappointment that the feelings which the noble marquis at the head of that government had so often expressed in that house had not been more fully acted upon; and he should like to know if he still retained those opinions, and, if he did, the reasons why they had not been acted upon. But, whatever might be the opinions of any noble lord, it could not but have a good effect upon a large proportion of the people of Ireland, to see, that while the house was arming his Majesty's government with extraordinary powers, they were desirous

of concurring in any measure which might conduce to the permanent tranquillity of the country. The noble duke concluded by moving the following resolutions:—

"That this house has learnt with the deepest regret, from the information laid before it during the present session by command of his Majesty, that a general spirit of violence, manifesting itself in outrages of the most alarming nature, has for some time prevailed in many parts of Ireland, and that in the opinion of his Majesty's government, extraordinary powers are required for the protection of the persons and property of his Majesty's subjects in that kingdom.

"That this house will be ready to concur in any measures which may be found indispensable for the prompt and effectual suppression of these disorders; but experience has proved that coercion and force, however necessary to avert a pressing and immediate danger, have not been sufficient to eradicate evils, whose magnitude and frequent recurrence induce a belief that there must exist some material defect in the state and administration of the laws, and the system of the government; to the examination of which. with a view to the adoption of more permanent and effectual remedies. it is the duty of this house to apply itself without further delay."

Earl Bathurst denied that there was any evidence to substantiate the charges against the government which the noble duke's speech contained. That the Parliament had, since the union, been employed solely in passing coercive measures,—it was sufficient to refer to the Statute books, to see the unfounded nature of that charge. The agriculture of Ireland was undoubtedly

an object of the first importance: and in 1816 the free importation of corn was allowed into this country from Ireland, at the same time that the free importation from foreign countries and from our own colonies was forbidden; and the monopoly of the grain market was thus given to Ireland: and at a subsequent period, when the prices were raised at which corn might be imported into this country from foreign countries, and from our colonies, it remained in the same state as to Ireland. However much political economists differed as to the propriety of the measure, they all agreed that it was the most important boon which could be conceded; and if their lordships referred to the quantities imported, they would see that in the last year it was quadrupled, as compared to the year before the union. Let the house also look to the different measures for the improvement of the administration of justice in that country, which was the first object to which the noble duke had called their attention: but from the manner in which he had commented on it, their lordships might suppose that no one measure had been adopted relative to it. The noble earl here instanced the present improved mode of selecting the sheriffs, which was now similar to the practice in this country; the corrected mode of levying fines where recognizances were forfeited; the improvement of receiving evidence by grand juries, and not as before, finding their bills on the depositions taken before the magistrates; and lastly, the police bill, which had recently been passed, and of the good effects of which they had the testimony of the noble marquis at the head of his Majesty's government in Ireland. There was also the introduction of petty sessions into that country—a measure of the greatest practical utility, and conducive in a great degree to the ends of justice. It had been the practice of a man who had a complaint to make, to go before some magistrate, who he imagined, from similarity of political resentment or other causes, might be favourable to him; but now, each magistrate was checked by his fellows, and by their acting under the control of public opinion. The control, also, which was placed on local taxation by the grand jury presentments bill, would be a great advantage to The importance of the country. this measure would be apparent to the house, when they recollected that at the time the whole revenue of Ireland was only 4,000,000%, there was little less than 1,000,000l. collected under the authority of grand jury presentments, of which no account was rendered to the public. Another measure by which Ireland had been benefited was, the advance of money for public works, to be repaid by instalments, and the sums granted for extending and improving the fisheries. noble lord (Lord Clare) who seconded the petition presented by a noble duke (the Duke of Leinster), had thought proper to complain that government had done nothing to give assistance to Ireland; but if their lordships would compare the sum voted this year for that purpose (30,000l.), and look to the sum which was voted by the Irish Parliament (only 300l.), that comparison was sufficient to relieve the Imperial Parliament from the charge of neglecting that country. If the subject of the noble duke's petition should be thought necessary to be considered, there was every

every disposition in his Majesty's government to take the subject into the fullest consideration; not that he meant to give any opinion on Mr. Owen's plan, but merely to express the desire of his Majesty's government to concur in any rational plan for the improvement of the condition of the people of Ire-The consolidation of the land. two Exchequers was also a measure of great benefit to Ireland. By that she was relieved from the payment of the two-seventeenths of the annual charge, as stipulated by the act of Union; and the present amount that she paid was, in fact, only two twenty-sevenths instead of two-seventeenths. By this measure the taxation of that country had also been relieved. Last year the window-light duties had been considerably lessened, and this year still farther reductions of taxation were to take place; and Ireland was about to be relieved from all assessed taxes, at the same time that this country remained burdened with a great proportion of those taxes. Was it, then, fair to represent the parliament as only employed in devising measures of coercion? It was very true, that as the coercive measures were always confined to a limited period, it was frequently necessary to renew them: but the measures for the benefit of Ireland were at once rendered permanent, and were acting at this moment silently and beneficially for her advantage. The noble duke called for conciliatory measures; and were not these which he had enumerated truly conciliatory measures, extending their benefits to every class of the community? The noble duke's motion differed very slightly from one which had been made by a noble marquis last session. In the

speech by which the noble marquis introduced that motion, he pointed out many circumstances which be thought contributed to the distresses of Ireland. One of the evils which had been complained of, was the absence of gentlemen from their estates, which government had attempted to remedy by repealing the assessed taxes. Irish gentlemen now knew that they could avoid the payment of those taxes, if they resided in their own country. noble earl concluded by stating, that as he was unwilling to meet the motion which had been submitted to their lordships with a direct negative, he would move the previous question.

The debate was afterwards carried on at great length by the Earls of Clare, Clifden, Darnley, Gosport, Caledon, Limerick, and Liverpool; Lords Holland and Maryborough, the Lord Chancellor and the Mar-

quis of Lansdown.

Their lordships then divided on the original motion: the numbers were as follows;—Content, 43— Proxies, 16—Total, 59. Not Content, 66—Proxies, 39—Total, 105. Majority against the motion, 46— Adjourned.

House of Commons, June 19.—A new writ was ordered for the borough of Hertford, for a burgess to serve in the room of Lord Cranbourne, who has succeeded to the title of Mar-

quis of Salisbury.

Mr. P. Moore presented a petition complaining of an undue election in the borough of Bossiney.—
It was ordered to be taken into consideration on the 8th of July.

Mr. Benett presented a petition from Robert Gourlay and others, paupers, complaining of certain parts of the poor bill called Mr.

Nolan's bill.

On the question that the assessed taxes' composition bill be read a third time,

Mr. Hobhouse said, that very early in the present session, the Chancellor, in speaking of a proposed reduction in the assessed taxes, had said, that besides the partial reduction of the window-tax, the whole of the lower range of windows in houses with shops would be exempted. He now, however, found, that this was to extend only to shop-windows which looked into streets in front, and not to those which looked into courts at the side or rear of the shops. There were many shopkeepers in Westminster whose shops were thus situated, and who, no doubt, would feel much disappointed that the promise at first held out had not been adhered to.

Mr. Herries said, the exemption of the lower range of windows was only to extend to those which belonged to shops, and not to the lower windows of any other part of the house; but he apprehended that all windows really belonging to the shop would be exempted, whether they looked into the street in front, or libto a court at the side.—The bill was then read a third time, and passed.

The barilla duties' bill went through a committee, and the report was ordered to be received tomorrow,

The passage vessels' regulation bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed to-morrow.

The poor settlement bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed on Monday next.

Mr. H. G. Bennet presented a petition from Hexham, praying for the abolition of slavery.

The same hon member presented a petition from certain owners and occupiers of land in Northumberland, praying for the equalization of duties on all British spirits.

Mr. James presented a petition signed by 3107 inhabitants of the town of Newcastle-upon-Tyne; many of them respectable tradesmen, but the greater part were operative mechanics and artisans part of that body which constituted the great wealth and strength of the country in time of need. stated, that it was their inalienable right to be fully and fairly represented; that they should have a voice by their representatives, in making the laws by which they were governed, and in imposing the taxes which they were called upon to pay; and that unless they enjoyed this, their condition was that of slavery. The hon, member here went at considerable length into a comparison of the situation of the West India negroes and the great body of the working population of this country; and, after contending that the negro was better circumstanced, he added, " If it was now proposed that an exchange of condition should be made between the blacks and the working population here, he thought it was in favour of the latter. The petitioners prayed, as a remedy for their grievances, that the house might grant annual parliaments, universal suffrage, and vote by ballot, in which prayer he entirely concurred."

On the question that the petition be brought up,

Sir I. Coffin expressed his belief that the hon member who presented the petition, and the petitioners, were all labouring under mental delusion. He did not know where the distress and misery of which they talked existed. For his own part, he never saw in any other place so many fat, sleek, well-clad, and contentedlooking people as he saw in England.

The petition was then read.

Mr. Abercromby, in the absence of his noble friend the member for Northamptonshire, presented a petition from 9525 householders of the county of Middlesex, praying that the jurisdiction of the county courts, which now applied to debts of 40s. value, should be extended to debts of 10l., or at any rate of 5l. value.

Mr. Hobhouse presented a petition from Mr. Butt, who complained of unjust detention at the suit of the

Treasury.

Mr. Lennard, after some observations, moved that a select committee be appointed to take into consideration the returns made to the house on the 24th of January, 1821, from the county court of the county of Middlesex—to examine whether the fees could not be diminished in the hundred of Ossulston, and whether the number of sittings in other hundreds could not be increased.

Mr. Curwen objected to the motion, and maintained that not the slightest imputation could rest upon the barrister who, with distinguished talents, presided over the county court of Middlesex.

Mr. G. Bennet was of opinion, that a committee could not be better employed than in inquiring into the establishment of this court, and whether it could not be improved.

For the motion, 18—Against it, 44.

Mr. Hume brought forward his motion relating to late promotions in the navy; and, after enumerating many instances which he considered extremely unfair, he moved the following resolutions;—

"That it appears, by returns to this house, that there were 3994 lieutenants, 813 commanders, and 851 post captains, on the list of the Royal Navy in January 1816; and that, notwithstanding so great a number of officers on the list, there has been, between January I, 1816, and January 8, 1823, an additional number of of 860 promotions; viz., of 513 midshipmen to be lieutenants, of 222 lieutenants to be commanders, and 125 commanders to be post captains; and that, although peace has existed for seven years, there were on January 8, 1823, 3720 lieutenants, 814 commanders, and 829 post captains on the list of the Royal Navy—a number more than sufficient to officer a fleet of twice the number of ships of every description in the British navy, if they were all at sea at the same time.

"That there are 814 commanders on the list of the royal navy, and 57 of them now on full pay, of whom only seven were promoted during the last ten years of active warfare (from 1802 to 1813), and 50 who have been promoted since June 1814, the termination

of the war in Europe.

"That many of the promotions have been made in the royal navy, without due regard either to the length of service, to the merit of the midshipmen and officers, or to the efficiency and advantage of the navy; and that the expense of the half-pay of the officers of the navy, necessarily great after a long war, has been thereby greatly and unnecessarily increased to the country.

"That there were 950 persons

on the list of the royal navy in January 1816, and 74, in January 1824, showing a decrease of 203 in the seven years, exclusive of sixteen persons added to the list in that time.

"That there were 6949 officers and men in the corps of royal marines in January 1816, and 8494 in January 1823, being an increase of the corps of 1545 in seven years; but there were only five first commissions granted, and thirty-two promotions to higher rank in that period.

"That an humble address be presented to his Majesty, that he will be graciously pleased to direct an enquiry to be made into the manner in which the Right Hon. the Lords of the Admiralty have exercised their power, both as regards the placing on full pay those officers already on the list, and the promotion of the several officers to higher rank in the navy since the peace in 1815."

Sir George Cockburn, Sir B. Martin, Sir I. Coffin, and others replied, after which the resolutions were negatived scriatim.

Mr. Western moved for leave to bring in a bill to alter the qualifications of jurors in counties, not being counties of cities.

Mr. Lester seconded the motion.

Leave was given to bring in the bill.

Mr. Hume now rose to submit his motion on the subject of the Coronation expenses. His objection, he observed, was not so much to the amount of the money expended, as to the principle of its application. A part of it, the house was aware, was paid out of the money given by France as indemnity to this country. The

whole sum amongst the several powers was 750,000,000 of francs, of which 125,000,000 were paid as our portion. In 1816 the house were told that details would be given of the application of the sums received by us. The house, however, did not hear of it till 1821. when the late Chancellor of the Exchequer stated that there were 500,000l. of it applicable to the service of the year. That right honourable gentleman added, that he could not then state the amount of the remainder, but that whatever it might be, it would be made applicable in the same manner, and an account given of it in the next year, of which it would form part of the ways and means. house, however, had got no farther particulars of it since then. late Chancellor of the Exchequer had distinctly stated that the whole surplus would be applied to the service of the year; and what he (Mr. Hume) complained of was, that instead of having this account given, 135,000l. of the sum should have been applied without the knowledge and consent of Parlia-This he complained of as a breach of faith with the house and the country, that the money should have been applied in this unwarrantable and unconstitutional manner; and it was the duty of the house to inquire into the case, which could not be better done than by the appointment of a commit-He had also to complain of the great excess of the expense of the coronation beyond the estimate. He would beg to ask the right hon. gentleman opposite, what was the use of an estimate, if it did not approximate in some degree to the sum to be expended? They were first told that 100,000% would very probably

probably cover the whole expense and a sum to that amount was voted by the house; but they now found, that instead of 100,000l., the sum expended was not less than 238,000/. It was said that the expense was very considerably increased by the delay of the coronation from 1820 to 1821. That might be; but why, in that case, was not a new estimate laid before the house in 1821? He had asked, in 1820, whether it was considered that the 100,000l. would be sufficient, and he was answered, that it would. Now, this was unfair; for he was satisfied, that if the whole sum was mentioned to the house at first, it would have required greater persuasion than had been used to induce them to consent to it. Next, as to the application of this immense sum. would wish to know something on the subject; and he thought that the house had a right to expect it ---not merely as a matter of curiosity, though that might not be out of the case, but as a matter in which they were interested as guardians of the public purse. should wish to know, how it happened that such an expense should He should be incurred for robes. like to be informed why that bauble-the Crown worn at the coronation-was kept so long at such a considerable expense to the country. He did not know whether it might not have been returned a month or two ago, but he did say it was an unnecessary expense to have kept it so long at an increased expense. The value of the jewels of which it was composed was about 70,000l., and the retention of it entailed an expense of 6000l. or 7000l., a year on the country. Why was there so much conceal-

ment on a subject which ought to have been open to the investigation of parliament? It was not, he considered, creditable to ministers to have this concealment. If the expenditure had been just and unavoidable, a committee would not The committee be objected to. could investigate the whole subject in 48 hours. There could therefore be no objection to the appointment of it on the score of time. The hon, member concluded by moving, "that a select committee be appointed to inquire into the circumstance of the expenditure of 138,2381. above the estimate made in 1820 for the expense of his Majesty's coronation, and into the several items of that expenditure; and also by what authority the sum of 188,000L was applied for that purpose without the sanction of parliament."

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, that he would not rest his objection to the committee on any wish to conceal from the house the manner in which the sum expended on the coronation had been applied. There was no wish of that kind on the part of government: indeed, it was not imputed that any misapplication had taken place, though an imputation had been cast of a desire for concealment. With respect to the first estimate being so much less than the sum subsequently expended, he would say that many of the services at the coronation performed by the household were abolished by Mr. Burke's bill, and no traces were left as to what the expenses of particular departments would be likely to create. They were left almost to guess in many instances, so that there could be no certainty as to the whole sum; and when, in 1820, the sum was fixed at 100,000l. it was thought that that sum would be sufficient. It should, however, be recollected that the expense of every department must be greater at the present time than it had been sixty years ago. With respect to the crown and robes, there had been a charge which could not at first have been contemplated. The value set on the jewels of the crown was 65,000L, for which ten per cent. was paid. There were. besides, other parts of the regalia for which jewels had been hired; for instance, the circle which was always worn by the sovereign on such occasions. The one formerly in use was so much out of repair, that it was necessary to have several additional jewels add-This occasioned a consider-At the coronation able expense. of George III. the jewels hired were valued at 370,000l.; and though the per centage at which they were hired was much less than on the present occasion, yet the expense of them for one day was 15,000l. The delay of the coronation from 1820 to 1821 had considerably enhanced the expense. The crown was made in 1820, in the expectation that it would have been used in that year; and the jeweller was entitled to his per centage for that year as well as for the next; for though it did not go back to him, the charge was the same. This made the expense on that item double the amount anticipated. After the coronation, it was thought that the crown might be purchased to add to the royal regalia, to prevent the necessity of hiring jewels on future occasions from any jeweller who might be able to supply them. But government did not feel it to be such. Knowing that the expense of purchasing the crown would amount to 65,000L, they felt that they should not be justified in purchasing it, till they knew what the whole expenses of the coronation would amount to; for if they should be greater than the calculated amount, as actually happened, they were not willing to increase them still more by the purchase in question. It was only right for him to state that his Majesty was strongly inclined to sacrifice a large portion of that part of the civil list which was more immediately under his own control, for the purpose of purchasing a permanent crown, and placing it among the regulia of the kingdom. But as his Majesty, with that consideration which marked every action of his life, had last year determined to give up to the wants of his people 30,000l. from that part of his income out of which he intended to purchase this crown, it was impossible for him to conclude the purchase until it was previously determined how far it was possible to bring the expenses of his household under the still more limited scale which it would be then necessary to adpot. It was necessary that some months should elapse before that problem could be solved; and it was not till the commencement of the present year that it was ascertained that the royal establishment could not be conducted upon so limited an expenditure as his Majesty wished. As soon as that point was ascertained, the crown was sent back; but still the expense of detaining it was incurred. If it had been found expedient to purchase this crown, and it had been detained so long in hopes that it would so be found, its price would not have been enhanced '

hanced by the detention, for the jeweller was not to have more than 65,000l. for it. If, in the interim, it had been sent back to him, and he had kept it in the same condition as it was at the coronation, it was only natural to suppose that he would, in all probability, have asked a larger sum for it, seeing that he could not make any use of or profit by the jewels which were set in it. It was sent back to him, however, as soon as it was discovered that the expense of purchasing it was too great to be defrayed out of his Majesty's personal revenues. other item on which the honourable member for Aberdeen demanded explanation was the robes. item was certainly a great one, it amounted to 24,000l.; but he could assure the house that there was nothing with regard to those robes that was inconsistent with the usages of former coronations. ceremony required that there should be two dresses of a peculiar construction; and the dresses used upon the last occasion were, as far as could be ascertained, in every respect similar to those used upon former occasions. He could not pretend to say whether there was or was not more fur on the last robes than on any other; neither could he pretend to decide whether the gold lace was or was not a quarter of an inch broader than it had ever been before. He had no means of making a comparison upon such a point, and therefore he thought that the house would be little benefited by entering into the proposed inquiry. A great part of the expense of those robes arose from the high price of ermine; but it also arose from to which he another cause, thought it necessary to allude; be-

cause, though the articles in question were properly included in these expenses, they still remained in use. It was usual to purchase a new set of robes for every new sovereign to appear in on the solemn occasions of his meeting and proroguing his parliaments; and those robes had generally borne some reference to those which the savereign had worn upon his coronation. It was true that his late Majesty had not ordered new robes for that purpose; but that very circumstance had rendered it necessary for his present Majesty to purchase The old robes, which his Majesty had worn before his coronation, were nearly a century old; they were patched and stitched together in several places, and indeed were so rotten, that if any person. at the foot of the throne had trod upon them, they would all have fallen immediately from bis Majesty's shoulders. It would not, therefore, surprise the house to hear that his Majesty had ordered new parliamentary robes. The expense of them was included in the item of 24,000l., which had been rendered so high by the great rise of price in several of the articles which it Having now adverted to the two great points on which the honourable member for Aberdeen had dilated, he would advert to the breach of faith with which he had charged his noble predecessor in office. His noble predecessor bad certainly stated that the amount of the expenses of the coronation would not exceed 100,0001.; but when the nature of the ceremony, the rarity of its occurrence, and the circumstance of there being nothing to guide his noble friend in the calculation of its expenses, were taken into consideration, he thought that

no person would be surprised at finding that the actual expenses surpassed the estimate which was taken of them in the first instance. He would also say a few words upon the application of the French indemnity fund to defraying these expenses—an application by which the bonourable member for Aberdeen appeared to think that his Majesty's ministers had been guilty of a great unconstitutional impropricty, though they had not been guilty of any actual breach of the law. He would admit, that in 1816. when the honourable member for Knaresborough made a motion for the house to dispose of this fund by its vote, without the King's direction, his noble predecessor had disclaimed the right of the King to them as a droit of the crown. But his noble predecessor had at the same time contended that this money, being derivable to the crown by a treaty with a foreign power, though not a droit of the crown, was not a fund inapplicable by the crown to the public service without the approbation of parliament. Purliament had since by its conduct given its sanction to that declaration of principle made by his noble friend; and he trusted that it would not on the present occasion withhold it from ministers, when they had again acted upon it. The honourable member. after some further observations, in which he stated that the people did not view the ceremony of a coronation with the same philosophical indifference as the honourable member for Aberdeen, concluded by affirming that no case had been made out for inquiry, and moving a negative upon the resolution proposed by Mr. Hume.

The house then divided, when 1823.

there appeared—For Mr. Hume's resolution, 77—Against it, 127.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved the order of the day for the third reading of this bill.

Mr. J. P. Grant moved that the house do now adjourn; but consented to withdraw his amendment on condition that the noble and learned lord would postpone the third reading of his bill till a future day.

The Lord Advocate then fixed Tuesday next for the third reading of it.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the house adjourned.

House of Lords, June 20.—
Petitions were presented against the repeal of the Spitalfields acts—against and for the Scotch linen acts—from an individual against the Bank of Scotland, which had refused to pay half a note of which the other half was lost.

Lord Stowell brought in a bill for declaring valid certain marriages which had been solemnized abroad.

The bill was then read the first time.

Lord Bexley moved the second reading, pro forma, of the silk-weavers bill.

The bill was read the second time, and ordered to be committed on Wednesday next.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, June 20.—
Petitions were presented against the employment of engineers instead of architects in the erection of London Bridge—against the combination laws—on the subject of the poor laws—against the importation of spirits from Scotland.

The Holyhead harbour bill went through a committee, when se-Y veral veral amendments were agreed to, and the report ordered to be received on Monday.

Sir George Cockburn moved that the London Bridge bill be read a third time.

The Lord Mayor said he would oppose the measure. It was the opinion of the corporation of London, that a new bridge was not at all necessary. The honourable magistrate, after going into some detail to prove this, concluded by moving, as an amendment, that the bill be read a third time that day three months.

After a few words from Mr. Alderman Thompson, Mr. T. Wilson, and Alderman C. Smith, the house divided, when the numbers were—For the amendment, 4—Against it. 71.

Mr. H. Summer proposed a clause to prevent the corporation of London appointing an engineer, architect, or contractor for the new bridge, without the consent of three or more Lords of the Treasury.

The Lord Mayor objected to it.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer supported the clause, on the ground that the public contributed 150,000 l. to the new bridge.

Mr. Denman, Sir I. Coffin, and Mr. T. Wilson, having each spoken briefly, another division took place upon this clause.—For the clause, 78—Against it, 16.

The bill was read a third time, and passed.

Sir T. Buring brought up the report on the petition of Mr. M'Adam.

Mr. Wilberforce presented three petitions against the continuance of negro slavery: they were from Bridgnorth, Lanark, and Brecon.

The hon, member also moved an address to the King, for copies

or extracts from the correspondence between the British government and foreign powers, relative to the execution of the several treatiesfor abolishing the illegal traffic in slaves.—Ordered.

On the motion of Mr. J. Williams, an account was ordered respecting the dates at which petitions of appeal and rehearing were presented to the House of Lords.

Mr. S. Rice moved, and it was ordered, that a select committee be appointed to inquire into the condition of the labouring poor in Ireland, with a view to facilitate the application of the private contributions, &c.

Mr. Brougham wished to put a question to the right honourable Secretary for Foreign Affairs; it was this.... Whether there was any foundation for the story which had reached the public through the foreign journals, that the Allied Powers had withdrawn their ministers from Stutgard, this step having originated in a refusal on the part of the King of Wurtemburg to suppress a newspaper and to make certain alterations in the constitution of his kingdom: the whole, it seemed, had grown out a protest by the King of Wurtemberg against the late invasion of Spain.

Mr. Canning was understood to commence his reply by objecting to this mode of putting interrogatories. He observed, that this country was no way a party to the proceedings of the Allied Powers, and that some of the accounts received by ministers were similar to those referred to by the hongentleman; but others were dissimilar as to material points. He had no hesitation in admitting that government had obtained informa-

tion

tion upon the subject; but he begged to decline stating more.

Mr. Brougham contended that he was justified by the strictest rules of parliamentary courtesy in putting the question he had asked. In his opinion nothing of the kind could occur between foreign continental powers, in which this country was not more or less immediately interested.

Mr. Canning was willing to allow that this country might be interested in the consequences; but there was a marked and clear distinction between transactions in which this kingdom was in some degree a party, and transactions in which this kingdom had no interest, and was only a spectator. If he were to attempt to answer the hon. gentleman, he must go into a great deal of detail on uncertain data. The fairest course was, therefore, to say that ministers were not in possession of any distinct information.

Mr. Brougham begged to enter his protest most strongly against being understood as concurring with the right honourable gentleman, that it was possible for this country to be a mere tame spectator of such acts. The principles of the Allies were utterly detestable in themselves, and ruinous to the liberties of the world.

Mr. Canning wished only to add, that the hon. gent. had assumed that this country was to be a mere tame spectator.

Mr. Kennedy moved that the Scotch juries bill should be read a second time. The law passed last session, from the extensive power of challenge which it gave, rendered the adoption of the present measure peremptorily necessary.

The order of the day was then read.

The Lord Advocate moved that the bill should be read a second time this day six months.

 $Mr. J. \dot{P}. Grant$  supported the bill.

Mr. Peel supported the amendment.

Sir. J. Macintosh warmly supported the bill, which, he contended, was necessary in consequence of the measure passed last year.

For the original motion, 47—Against it, 42—Majority, 5.

The bill was then read a second time, and ordered to be committed on Monday.

On the motion of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the house resolved itself into a committee of the whole house to consider farther of the supply to be granted to his Majesty.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved—" That a sum not exceeding 40,000l be granted to his Majesty towards defraying the expense of erecting an additional building at the British Museum, for the reception of the library of his late Majesty.

Mr. Hoblouse thought the library a proper appendage to one of the royal palaces, and moved as an amendment—" That no money be granted to provide a building for the reception of the late King's kibrary, until the house were informed whether it could not be deposited in the neighbourhood of the royal palaces, and of the house of parliament."

Sir C. Long, Sir J. Macintosh, Mr. Lennard, Mr. R. Goulburn, Mr. Croker, Mr. Bankes, and other members speke.

Mr. Hobbouse then withdrew his amendment; after which,

Y 2

Mr.

Mr. Croker moved as an amendment, that the words "British Museum" in the original motion be omitted.

Mr. Hume wished the present building to be pulled down, and a new one erected on its site.

The committee then divided the numbers were—For the original motion, 54—Against it, 30.

The house having resolved itself into a committee of supply, a resolution, granting 2000l. to Captain Manby, for his services in saving the lives of shipwrecked seamen, was moved and agreed to.—The report was ordered to be received on Monday.

The house resumed, and, the other orders of the day being dis-

posed of, adjourned.

House of Lords, June 23.—On the motion of the Earl of Liverpool, the report of the select committee on the appellant jurisdiction of the House of Lords was ordered to be taken into consideration on Thursday next.

Petitions were presented in favour of the Scotch linen bills, and

against the beer bill.

On the further consideration of the report on the marriage law, the Earl of Westmorland stated the objections which he entertained to the clause relative to the forfeiture of property in cases of minors marrying against the provisions of the act by fraud or perjury.

The Earl of Liverpool defended the clause; and after a few words from the Lord Chancellor and Lord Ellenborough, the report was agreed to, and the bill ordered to be engrossed, and read the third time

to-morrow.

On the order of the day being read for the third reading of the Irish grand jury presentment bill, The Marquis of Lanedown said, that at the suggestion of his noble friend (the Earl of Donoughmore) he would move, as an amendment, the omission of the oath imposed on clerks of the peace, and after the third reading he should move an additional clause, for securing to the clerks of the peace whatever emoluments they were entitled to under the insurrection act.

The amendment was agreed to; as also the amendment and additional clause proposed by the noble marquis.

The bill was then read a third

time, and passed.

The Scotch linens' bill was cousidered in committee.

The Duke of Atholl opposed the bill: its general tendency would be to drive the whole of the small manufacturers out of the market. He particularly objected to the clause which went to repeal the act for affixing a stamp on the

to that effect.

The Earl of Rosslyn supported the bill.

linens, and moved an amendment

The Duke of Atholl explained.
The Earl of Lauderdale denied that the operation of this bill would establish monopolies in the manner mentioned by the noble duke. He thought it, on the contrary, a measure well calculated to be benefi-

cial to the community.

The Duke of Athol's amendment was then put, and negatived.
The bill was then passed through the committee, and reported with-

out any amendments.

The vessels' registry bill was then committed, and reported without amendment.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, June 23.—Mr. Kennedy moved that a message be sent to the Lords, praying that their lordships

lordships would send down to the house of commons a copy of their report on their own appellant jurisdiction.—Ordered accordingly.

The Scotch jury bill was committed, reported, and ordered to be taken into farther consideration on Wednesday next.

The barilla duties bill was read a third time, and passed.

Petitions were presented against slavery.

On the motion of Mr. Huskisson, the reciprocity duties' bill was read a second time.

On bringing up the report of the larceny repeal of clergy bill, Mr. Bennet said a few words, objecting to the long term of imprisonment; and, after a remark from Mr. Peel, the bill was recommitted for the purpose of introducing a few unimportant amendments. 'The report was received, the amendments were agreed to, and the third reading was fixed for Wednesday.

The felonies' benefit of clergy bill went through a committee. The report was brought up, and the third reading fixed for Wednesday.

The report of the sentence of death bill was brought up, and recommitted. The same order was made regarding it as with the preceding.

The felo de se bill was committed: it was ordered that it be read a third time on Wednesday next.

Mr. Brougham moved the second reading of the beer retail bill.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer did not object in this stage of the measure, but he begged not to be understood as acquiescing in it.

Mr. Alderman Wood referred to the ruin that would inevitably visit 50,000 publicans if this bill were carried. He wished it to be postponed. The Chancellor of the Exchequer did not know how the principle of the bill could be objected to; but considering the way in which the property of the brewer and the publican had been created by the existing law, he was not prepared at once to invade and overthrow it. On this account he had himself introduced a more limited measure.

Mr. Brougham farther enforced the fitness of taking the discussion on a future day. This bill did not enable any man to sell a single pot of beer for consumption on the premises.

The bill was then read a second time, and the committee fixed for Friday.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved that the house resolve itself into a committee of supply.

The Speaker then left the chair. and the house having gone into the committee, Mr. Lushington moved the following votes:-15,000l. for Donaghadee barbour. — 29,114/. for the London and Holyhead road. -45,000l. for the reval harbour of King's-town.—20,870L for Holyhead harbour.—23501. for printing a new volume of the journals. -5870L in aid of the propagation of the gospel in the Colonies.---15,000l. for promoting emigration from the South of Ireland to the Canadas and the Cape of Good Hope.—9041. for paying retired allowances to the Rev. F. Archer. inspector of prisons in Ireland.-7000l, to enable the Lord Lieutenant, from time to time, to advance sums of money in aid of schools set on foot by voluntary subscription.

The house then resumed; the report ordered to-morrow.

On the motion of the Chancellor

of the Exchequer, the house resolved itself into a committee of supply.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer observed, that he had stated in an early part of the present session, that it was not his intention, after its termination, to propose any thing in the nature of another lottery. He had expressly intimated, however, that he should have to bring forward a lottery proposition on the present occasion; and, remembering what was the apparent feeling of the house when he last mentioned the subject, he trusted no objection would be taken to the resolution he had now to submit. more particularly as it was but just, however it might be the intention of Parliament to proceed in the matter in future, that the parties principally interested in this department of the public revenue should not be taken, as it were, entirely by surprise. He therefore moved that the committee do authorize the Lords Commissioners for executing the office of Lord High Treesurer of Great Britain and Ireland, to treat and contract with any person or persons for the disposal of 60,000 tickets, to be drawn in one or more lotteries, at such prices and under such rules and regulations as to the committee may appear expedient.

Mr. Leycester strongly opposed this resolution; but the tone of voice in which the hon. member addressed the house prevented him from being heard with any degree of distinctness in the gallery. He observed that the Chancellor of the Exchequer endeavoured to recommend his proposition to the adeption of Parliament, by stating that it was the last session in which he should have to bring it

forward. But why was the country to be infected with its moral pestilence for another year—though but for one year—seeing what had been the misery and vice which it had throughout so long a period disseminated in every part of the kingdom?

Mr. Ricardo wished to ask the right honourable gentleman how many lotteries were intended to be contracted for under the present vote? Was it meant that these 60,000 tickets were to be drawn at once, or in more than one lottery?

The Chancellor of the Exchequer replied, that as there were to be 60,000 tickets, he thought they might be drawn in about three lotteries.

The resolution was then agreed to without a division.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved another resolution, "That a sum not exceeding 14,700,000L be raised by Exchequer bills, to make good the supplies voted for the service of the year 1823;" which was also agreed to.

The house then resumed; the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Wednesday next.—Report ordered to be received to-morrow.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer rose, and stated that on Wednesday week, he having already intimated what was the general outline of the propositions to be submitted to Parliament, connected with various services of the country, and many of which propositions the house was already in opposession of, he would take an opportunity of recapitulating the general financial proceedings for the present year.

Lord Nugent moved that the house go into committee upon the

tests

tests regulation act. Several members expressed their objection to it; after which Lord Nugent withdrew his motion, and moved that it be an instruction to the committee to divide the bill into two bills.—Agreed to.

Upon the motion of Lord Nugent, the house resolved itself into a committee, and the bill was divided into two bills.

The house then resumed, and the report was brought up and ordered to be taken into further consideration on Wednesday next.

The other orders of the day being disposed of, the house adjourned.

House of Lords, June 24.— Mr. Brogden, accompanied by several other members of the House of Commons, brought up the assessed taxes' composition, prize money distribution, barilla duties, Southwark small debts, and several private bills, which were afterwards read a first time.

A message from the Commons was also brought up by Mr. Kennedy, requesting a copy of the report of the Lords' committee on the appellate jurisdiction of the House of Lords: also a copy of the return of the number of causes decided in the Court of Session in Scotland, between 1802 and 1828, and the number of appeals to the House of Lords in the same period.

The marriage bill was read the third time, and passed.

The beer bill was read the second time.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, June 24.— The Southwark Court of Requests bill was read a third time, and passed.

Petitions were presented against slavery—for an amendment in the

excise laws-from Mr. B. Cochrane, against certain transactions of the victualling board—against any alteration in the duties of woolfrom a female of Preston confined for debt, complaining of being treated as a felon-from persons engaged in the herring fishery at Banff, praying that the importation of oak staves from the North of Europe might be allowed-for the equalization of the duties on sugars-from attorneys and solicitors of Ireland, praying for the repeal of the law requiring an annual licence.

Messengers from the Lord brought down the marriage bill.

Mr. Goulburn moved that the Irish insurrection act be read a second time.

The order of day for this purpose having been read,

Sir H. Parnell said, that he felt the present state of Ireland to be such, at this moment, that it would be an abandonment of duty were he to sit silent when a subject of this kind was brought forward; discussion, it was clear, would of itself produce some beneficial consequences. He would, in the outset, explain one or two points, as he was anxious not to be misunderstood. In the first place, he did not wish to put a stop to the repassing of the Irish insurrection act, for though he thought it unnecessary to remedy existing evils, or suppress prevailing disturbances. still he was willing that it should be adopted, as giving additional security to life and property. In what should fall from him. he meant to cast no reflection or reproach upon the administration of Lord Wellesley. He had filled his high station most advantageously to Ireland, and honourably to him-

self. Under his sanction, many most useful measures had been resorted to—the constables' bill, the revision of the magistracy, and the The latter was highly tithe-bill. valuable in principle, whatever defects might belong to the details. The present was not a question between parliament and the government of Lord Wellesley-it was essentially not merely an Irish, but an English question, and all the best interests of England were concerned in it. He was willing to admit that ministers deserved credit for the course of policy they had pursued towards Ireland. The commercial regulations recently established would be very advantageous to Ireland, and the manner in which ministers had relinquished a great degree of patronage by the union of the two revenue boards, was extremely laudable. Before the house proceeded to the re-enactment of the unconstitutional measure upon the table, he conceived that it was its duty to obtain possession of all information relative to the internal state of Ireland; to ascertain, if possible, the cause and extent of the disturbances which had long afflicted that country. If this step were taken, the house would be surprised to find the condition of Ireland for the last thirty years, with respect to internal tranquillity. In order to show the real state of the country at the present moment, the hon. baronet read extracts from the printed despatches of the Marquis Wellesley, dated January and May, 1822, from whence it appeared that in Leinster, Munster, Connaught, and Ulster, disturbances existed, arms were collected, and proselytes made. He also adverted to the proceedings on the trials of

riband men in Dublin, and quoted a part of the speech of the Attorney-General upon that occasion, which detailed the nature and objects of this society. For thirty vears Ireland had been in a state of constant disturbance; in more than twenty counties the course of riot had been so regular, that the existing generation might be said to have grown up in the practice of it; and statutes utterly subversive of the liberty of the subject had, for more than twenty years, in Ireland, been the law of the land. We had a population in that countryand an enormously and rapidly increasing population-rearing and educating in lawless habits. a state of things presented a prospect a great deal too formidable to be met by a mere proposition to renew the insurrection act. If it was difficult to imagine the precise object of the illegal associations of Ireland, it was pretty obvious from their measures that their object could be no light one. His wish was for inquiry; certain it was that nothing could be done without it. He wished to have a secret committee upon the causes and extent of the troubles of Ireland, for he thought that the true causes of discontent in that country had, and in very high quarters, been greatly misapprehended. He did not believe that the clamours of the Irish peasantry were those of mere poor men who were anxious to share the advantages of the rich. not believe that the objects of the deluded parties were mainly the getting rid either of rents or church He did not believe that tithes. the evil was poverty; for the country had been just as much disturbed as it was at present when the lower orders had stood in a situation

tuation of incomparably greater advantage. He denied the position that the discontents of Ireland had no view to the political condition of the country. universal expression of loyalty which attended the King's visit was wrested into an argument to support that conclusion; but, in fact, it cut directly the other way. The truth was, that the King's arrival in Ireland had been hailed as an important political event. The King had ever been considered as the friend of Ireland; he was considered so still; and his touching upon her shores had been taken as a pledge of relief. He repeated, that he thought the causes of disaffection in Ireland had been mistaken: and he had little faith in many of the remedies which were held up as proper to effect its cure. He did not think that education would produce all the advantages which were anticipated from it. The example of Scotland was quoted upon that point; but there was a decided difference between the cases of Scotland and of Ireland. In Scotland, discontent and anarchy had been produced by the operation of certain obnoxious and oppressive penal laws; those laws being repealed, the troubles disappeared, and that consequence was attributed to education with which education had nothing to do. the discontents which were operating to produce confusion in Ireland arose out of old and deep-rooted feelings of political dissatisfaction. The effect of the Poperv laws had not tended to alleviate those heartburnings which had taken their origin in the confiscation of nineteen twentieths of the landed property in the country. He reminded the house of the opinion which Mr. Burke had expressed upon the neglect of carrying into effect those articles in the treaty of Limerick which promised the extension of the English constitution in its full freedom to Ireland. From some circumstances or other continually intervening, it did so happen that, the treaty had never been in the slightest degree fulfilled; and from that cause among others, the discontents had continued to exist till the pre-It was in this sisent moment. tuation of things that the house were undertaking to go on governing the people of Ireland by the old methods of force and violence. Ireland must have the full benefit of the constitution; the people knew the value of it as well as the English, and would be as tranquil in the enjoyment of it, only let them feel that they were securely protected in their obedience, and that their best interests would be found in tranquillity and obedience to the laws. It was assumed by one considerable party in that country, that the constitution was now enjoyed there. Certainly they had all the outward forms of it; but if properly examined, the essential benefits would be found entirely wanting. They especially wanted an adequate representation in Parliament. The great body of that people were not represented. They all must remember the remarks of Mr. Burke, as to the good that was done to Wales and some of the counties palatine by extending the English mode of representation to them in the time of Henry VIII.—not virtual representation, as one mode which had been named, but a real representation chosen by the people of those The constitution was very places. again promised to Ireland at the union.

union, and it was then argued that the representation would be more complete than it had been in a separate Irish parliament. this was all that the Irish had been allowed to know of the benefits of the English constitution ever since. It was well known that Mr. Pitt quitted office because, as he averred. he found himself incapable of fulfilling the engagements made with Ireland, at the time of the union, to extend the benefits of the constitution to that country. And it was an undoubted fact, that but for the promises held out to the Catholics of Ireland, and their consequent acquiescence in, and assistance of that great measure, the union could not have been carried. He knew that there were other causes assigned for the disturbances in Ireland-the want of education, the want of employment-the absence of the landlords: but the secret lay deeper-the original cause was the want of the constitution. without which measures of force would avail them nothing. had better consent at once to go to the root of the evil, to inquire into the first moving causes of the turbulence, and to see what conciliation could effect. He had made these few observations from a sense of duty, fearing that if he had postponed them till the coming session, and the disorders should increase in Ireland, he might incur a charge of neglect for not having given the house such information He concluded by as he possessed. moving the following amendment: -" That a committee be appointed. consisting of 21 members, to inquire into the extent and object of the present disturbances in Ire-If the amendment were

carried, he intended to move that it be a secret committee.

Mr. Grattun seconded the mo-The system of force had been tried long enough to prove that it was of no effect. Every means having the character of coercion had been readily granted by Parliament. Insurrection acts, the constabulary act, special commissions, sessions extraordinary, an addition of 9000 or 10,000 troops, and all would not do-In two counties they had one half of the military force of Ireland busily oc-The hopes held out of quelling the disturbances by this act never had been, nor ever would be, realized. It was not education that was wanted, for that could only make them more sensible of the effects of bad government. was not manufactures; they had had the linen trade among them for a hundred and fifty years. was just and orderly government, and the fair advantages of the English constitution. Some measures of immediate amelioration might be applied. Some modified imitation of the English poor laws would be advisable, and a small tax on absentees might very properly make a part in the measure. The qualification of tithes, in a real bona fide sense, was a measure of the first necessity. The duties of the established church should be faithfully fulfilled, and some means adopted to enforce the observance of them. The Catholic clergy should be put on a better footing, which would cost very little money, and prove very useful to the interests of religion, and the restoration of order. The committee, for which his right hon. friend had moved, would give a very desirable opportunity to gentlemen of experience in the affairs of Ireland, to mature a plan of conciliation, which would be more effectual than these extraordinary terrors of the law.

Mr. Goulburn admitted that nothing had fallen from the honourable baronet who moved the amendment, but what was entitled to the fullest consideration. It appeared, however, that, technically speaking, there was no intention to oppose the bill, nor any question as to the necessity of suppressing immediately the disturbances and outrages which prevailed in Ireland. Parliament having twice conceded these extraordinary powers to the Irish government upon the most satisfactory grounds, they could only in fairness be withdrawn upon showing that the emergency upon which they were originally granted had ceased. He must, therefore, persevere in pressing for the second reading of the bill. He doubted the efficacy of the inquiry at this advanced period of the session, especially when he considered, not only the thinness of the house upon this particular occasion, but that the Irish members, from whom alone they could hope to get full and useful information in the committee, were almost all departed -not to shun the fatigue of sitting there, but to assume situations of responsibility and peril, and to lend their best endeavours to restore the public tranquillity. though he resisted present inquiry, he admitted the usefulness of it in principle, and promised, that if it should be his ill fortune to have to ask in the ensuing session for a renewal of the powers of this act, he would move for an inquiry him-

self. But then he would confine his motion within the natural boundaries—be would contract it to a search into the causes which might produce the disturbances in the particular counties. He would not go into a consideration of the effects of all the measures of conciliation which had been adopted towards Ireland. One thing he remarked which was curious in the speech of the hun. baronet. Though he ventured to hint at the necessity of making concessions to the Roman Catholics, and the purport of that part of his address could not be mistaken, he never once ventured to name them .---Upon that subject he (Mr. Goulburn) would then give no opinion. The suggestion of the honourable baronet was not of weight enough to prevent the passing of a measure which was required for the immediate suppression of the outrages in that country. The hobaronet had, amongst nourable other causes to which he attributed the dangers and difficulties by which Ireland was surrounded. adverted to the numerous population of that country; and he had traced all the evils by which she was afflicted, even including that redundant population, to the present unfortunate government. how could the present government. or any other that had preceded it, prevent that enormous increase of population, which the honourable baronet had placed foremost in the list of miseries under which he described Ireland to be suffering.— Ireland was afflicted by two kinds of evils—one of them was of a temporary nature, and immediate relief might be applied to it; but the other had grown up through a long

long period of time, and it could only be cured by the adoption of measures, the progress of which must necessarily, from the nature of the disease, be slow in their operation. The encouragement of education, with a view to a perfect eradication of the disturbances which too often prevailed in Ireland, was a matter of very great When ministers spoke moment. of the probable effects of education. they did not mean to say that it would at once put an end to the outrage and devastation which prevailed in the counties of Limerick and Cork; but they did affirm, that by persevering in the introduction of a regular system of education, not merely that of teaching the people to read and write, but teaching them the due observance of their moral duties-of those duties which they owed to God and man—and proving to them that obedience to the law was a religious, as well as a moral obligation, very great benefit would result from it. He spoke this with perfect confidence, because all history bore him out in the fact. they proceeded in such a course, the time would undoubtedly arrive when it would have its due and proper effect; and when those individuals, who were now blamed for hazarding an opinion, that education would be so eminently beneficial, would receive from a late posterity the reward which they The hon. barquet had merited. spoken of what he denominated the parallel cases of Scotland and Wales; and he argued, that if similar measures were adopted with respect to Ireland, as had been used with reference to those parts of the empire, the same result would be produced. But he stu-

diously guarded himself against admitting that education had any effect in creating the change of manners to which he alluded. took care to tell the house, that it was not education which rendered mild and sociable people who were naturally fierce and intractable. No: the hon. baronet contended that it was the general concession to persons of different religious opinions which wrought the alteration. To that doctrine, however plausible, he (Mr. Goulburn) could not agree; because be viewed the influence of education as having done a great deal in softening and improving the manners. The hon. baronet having gone through various minor points, proceeded to quote the breach of the articles of the capitulation of Limerick as one of the fruitful sources of discontent. This was not the first time that question had been brought forward; but there was so manifest an inconsistency in adducing such an argument at the present time, as relieved him entirely from the necessity of entering into the merits of that old topic. It was argued, that the articles of the capitulation of Limerick were agreed to for the purpose of conferring on the Catholics certain benefits therein stated; and the honourable baronet asserted, that the non-performance of the terms of that capitulation had aggravated all the evils of Ireland, since severe restrictions had followed the alleged breach of faith. The restrictions to which the honourable baronet alluded were the penal laws which affected the property of the Catholics: and be laid it down as a point not to be disputed, that those penal laws were the offspring of the non-performance of the treaty of Limerick. But

But the honourable baronet would have done well to have recollected, that even if those penal laws were created in consequence of the breach of the treaty of Limerick, they had long since ceased to operate. The time had long gone by since this country atoned for the breach (if it were one), by repealing those very penal laws; and though he agreed with the honourable baronet, that political hatred and animosity, when once engendered, did not speedily subside, yet it would have been well if he had shown why, after such a series of benefits as had been conferred by this country on Ireland, the alleged breach of the articles of Limerick should be so tenaciously held in memory. He had intended to confine himself to the proposition of the honourable baronet; but he felt it necessary to make some observations on different parts of his statement. He thought it was impossible to procure any satisfactory information on this subject from those whom it was now in their power to examine; and therefore he considered the appointment of a committee to be unnecessary. He trusted he had said enough to satisfy the house that he would himself be ready, on some future occasion, if the state of Ireland rendered it necessary, to call the attention of the house to this subject and have it thoroughly investigated. Having stated this, he thought gentlemen had better do their duty towards Ireland by concurring with him in the measure before the house, than by throwing those obstructions in his way to which the motion of the honourable baronet must necessarily give rise.

Colonel Davies supported the proposition for a committee. If it

sat but a week, nay, a single day, it would be of service, since it would show that parliament took some interest in the state of Ire-The right honourable gentleman had taken the same course as his predecessors had done. regretted the necessity which existed for proposing such coercive measures, and promised an inquiry at some future day. The same thing had been done by every chief secretary for the last twenty years. Still, however, nothing of a conciliatory nature was attempted. He held in his hand an address from the grand jury of the county of Cork, and their cry was "force! force! force!" but not a word was said about "conciliation." land was reduced to a most deplorable state by mis-government. He was convinced, that if the government of this country made the English peasantry suffer one half the misery which was inflicted on the people of Ireland, they would soon be converted from friends to bitter foes. The law was much better, and more impartially administered in this country. Could gentlemen assert, that the laws were administered in Ireland so equally as they were here? believed the contrary was the fact. In Ireland, the law was often made the engine by which the rich man oppressed and bore down the poor one. With respect to Catholic emancipation, he thought it should be conceded. That question had sometimes been brought on in a shape that did not please him, and which was undoubtedly contrary to the feelings of a large portion of the people of England. But if it were shown that it was intended merely to restore the Catholics to their civil rights, without extending ing their political influence, be was sure the people of England had too great a regard for justice, and too accurate a knowledge of their own interest, to oppose such a proposition. He was convinced that they would not allow any antiquated prejudices to interpose between them and the principles of Let gentlemen calmly consider the importance of Ireland to this country, and they would at once see the necessity of fully in-While vestigating this subject. the present system continued, and this country remained at peace with Europe, there would be constant outrage, disturbance, and rebellion in Ireland. And if, in furtherance of their despotic project, the Holy Alliance thought proper to declare war against Great Britain, the first point of attack would Every effort ought be Ireland. therefore to be made, for the purpose of conciliating and uniting the population of that country.

Mr. J. Smith would not apologize for addressing the house on this occasion, because it was the duty, and the bounden duty, of English members, at this moment, to attend to the affairs of Ireland. He had heard with some astonishment the speech of the right honourable secretary, and he would ask his honourable friends around him, whether they had not on former occasions heard speeches of precisely the same nature and character? There was not any difference in the speech of the right honourable secretary, as compared with those which had been delivered by his predecessors, except a slight allusion to the present motion for a committee. The usual topics introduced, and the usual practice of government not to con-

sent to any inquiry was pertinaciously adhered to. Many motions for inquiry had been submitted to the house; some of them supported by men of as much talent and integrity as ever sat in parliament; but nothing in the way of inquiry was ever conceded, if he excepted that small portion which, he was happy to say, was taken up on Friday evening last. How stood the affairs of Ireland-and what subjects presented themselves for inquiry? He would begin with the subject of finance. Why should the people of this country pay 2,000,000l. a-year for Ireland? Had it been fairly and clearly explained to the house why she could not pay her own quota? He knew the reason, and it ought to be generally known. He thought it right to show the people! of this country, that they were not taxed for the benefit of Ireland, but to support a system of extravagance. Was it not proper that this should be inquired into? Again, with respect to the administration of the laws of Ireland. He could produce evidence to show, that the laws were violated in Ireland—shamefully, scandalously, and openly violated. Persons, not in the rank of gentlemen, but removed a little above the common rank of life, had it in their power, such was the mal-administration of the law, to prevent their being arrested for 201. If the right honourable secretary and the house were not acquainted with these facts, it was fit that they should be made the subject of inquiry. He demanded whether there could be any difference of opinion on this subject? they constantly hear every person who spoke of Ireland exclaim, "What is to become of that coun-

try? What steps are the government to take to remedy these evils?" As the right honourable secretary had touched on the treaty of Limerick, he (Mr Smith) would state, that in his opinion, and he held that opinion for many years, the violation of that treaty was the basis of infinite mischief to Ireland. He would ask why the Catholic question was not brought forward properly? The disabilities under which the Roman Catholics laboured were the source of great irritation in Ireland; and the gentlemen opposite need not hope for peace in that country, until the question was set at rest. was surely a fit subject for inquiry, whether Ireland was to be governed by the bayonet or by the law. With respect to the question of education, he had given much attention to it, and he had, with considerable pains, procured some information respecting it. A right hon. gent. (Mr. Peel) had, on a former occasion, stated, in very elegant language, what was intended to be done. Now, he had learned with regret that those efforts were confined to a very small body; and he could not discover that the Catholics of Ireland had been assisted. On the contrary, he believed that, with reference to education, little or nothing had been done for them. This ought also to be inquired into. There were, indeed, so many points of interest which demanded investigation, that he wondered how government could dare to refuse the inquiry called for. Hopes had, on various occasions, been held out by the gentlemen opposite, that an investigation should be set on foot, but no sort of benefit resulted from their promises. Year after year, insurrection, murder, robbery, outrage, and confusion, prevailed in that country, and nothing effectual was done to put an end to this disgraceful state of things. since he recollected any thing about Ireland, this had been the case: and now, in the year 1823, after this long and most painful experience, they were told that this was not the time to probe to the bottom the cause of those miseries and horrors. They were requested to trust entirely to governmentthey were informed that an inquiry was perfectly unnecessary—that the session of Parliament was nearly at an end, and therefore that it would be useless to proceed with an investigation. He firmly believed, that unless a change took place on the other side of the house. and a little more attention was paid by that (the opposition) side, they would go on in the course they had so long pursued, until a moment would arrive when inquiry would be wholly out of their power. On these grounds he should support the proposition of the hon. baronet.

Mr. Robertson considered that much of the misery and discontent which was felt by the great body of the people of Ireland arose from the immense difference in number, which existed between them and that portion of the population which was favoured by the It was not consistent with human nature, that 6,000,000 of people should sit down quietly under disqualifications, while 600,000 of their fellow-countrymen were raised above them by the enjoyment of rights and privileges to which they conceived themselves to be equally entitled. They had reduced the Catholics to a state of slavery worse

than the Helots of ancient times. and then they pretended to wonder at their discontent: they had oppressed them, and spread dissension through every family in the kingdom, and yet they asked, why were not the people of Ireland peaceable and contented? Besides, in what way had they relaxed the odious penal code? Never but in periods of distress, when the enemy were on their coasts: when the French and Spanish navy rode triumphant in the channel — an ominous occurrence not impossible to recur in the present state of the world—and when the government were reluctantly compelled to arm that people, in the defence of the kingdom, whom they had previously degraded and oppressed. It was fear, not policy, which influenced the conduct of the government; for Mr. Fitzgerald had shortly before in vain tried to introduce a bill into the Irish parliament to enable Catholics to hold 61 years' leases of real property, which an unfeeling government had rejected, although in the moment of danger which followed they extended to them leases of 999 years. How were the people of any nation to be grateful, either for such misgovernment, or concessions so wrung from the hand of power? Again and again he would say, that for Ireland there could be no peace without concession upon a broad and liberal No petty concession would do - nothing less than a general and perfect equality of privilege could ensure the tranquillity of that unhappy country. It was said that Ireland would improve by the introduction of capital to assist her population. He was aware that British capital was largely embarked in the concerns

 of other and unstable governments; but who could expect to procure capital for Ireland until something like order and tranquillity reigned there? It was said that the diffusion of education would do a great deal for Ireland; he was the advocate for general education; but let them bear in mind the necessity of teaching those whom they educated. that their condition was fairly at-What would be the tended to. effect of diffusing education throughout Ireland in the present oppressed and degraded state of the great bulk of her population? Why, it would be this-that an educated people would instantly break the chains which galled them. England imagine she could, in such an event, govern Ireland by the bayonet? No; there was but one nolicy to be tried, and that wasconciliation. He did not mean that they should at once break down that mound of impolitic and unjust legislation which for centuries they had been erecting to obscure and barbarize the human mind: but let them at once avow that they meant to do so, with all prudent and reasonable despatch, and then it was in human nature that the people would be satisfied. Much stress was laid upon middle-men and absentees; and it was natural enough that the people should look with jealousy upon those who oppressed them, and that they in their turn should feel distrust at being surrounded by enemies. Time and better treatment would wear away this mutual jarring. Let the Catholic and the Protestant be placed upon one footing, as they were in Switzerland, Prussia, and other states, and good feelings would pervade the community; it was these adious distinctions which bred mutual

mutual animosity among sects. was a broad principle of legislation, that obedience to the laws implied protection from them. Were the Catholics protected by the laws? Begin then, at last, a new principle of legislation more befitting an enlightened country to a suffering people, and put an end to this source of distraction by repealing all the obnoxious statutes which fed the same of civil discord. priests of the Catholics receive a stipend from the government-let not all the tithes be paid to the clergy of 500,000 people-the population of Protestants to Catholics was at one time as one to three, it was now as one to six; what better commentary could they have upon the inefficiency of this cumbrous church establishment upon a Catholic population? Let the Protestaut pastor enter, as the Catholic priest did, into the smoky and miserable hut of the peasant, and then he could claim some share of the influence over his flock, now exclusively enjoyed by the latter. He concluded by entreating the English members to attend to this question, and by declaring his cordial support of the amendment: for inquiry with a view to concession, and not the terrors of an insurrection act, so often tried in vain, was the only way of securing ultimate tranquillity for Ireland.

Mr. C.N. Hutchinson, Mr. Bankes, Mr. R. Martin, Mr. S. Rice, and Sir J. Newport pext spoke.

Mr. Peel recalled the attention of the house to the original proposition brought before them. Now, he had heard nobody contend, (indeed no one seemed to dispute the point,) that the passing of the insurrection act was not, under present circumstances, a measure of 1823.

wisdom. The objection seemed to be to the principle of such an act, as a necessary part of the legislation of Ireland. But who had said that the insurrection act was any other than a strictly temporary measure? It was brought forward as being necessary at the present emergency, not as a measure in itself proper for the general government of Ireland. Had the right hon. bart., on the other hand, denied that that necessity existed at this moment, he (Mr. Peel) could easily have comprehended that he might have good ground for the committee which he had proposed. But he would ask the house, whether it was possible, at this period of the session, to go into a committee, such as was called for by the right honourable baronet and the member for Midhurst; the objects of which would be of no less magnitude and importance, than the present condition of Ireland, and the effects of the Union -the enforcement of the laws in that country-and the state of education there? Were these subjects, into an investigation of which the House of Commons ought to enter on the 24th of June, 1823, if they proposed to complete their inquiries within the session? such inquiries occupy them at the least less than three months? The right honourable gentleman then adverted to the speeches of the honourable members for Cork and Grampound, and observed, that last session the three principal topics pressed upon the government at every discussion of an Irish question, were excessive taxation, illicit distillation, and tithes, the three paramount ills of Ireland. For every one of these ills, government had this session brought forward a The Chancellor of the remedy. Z Exchequer

Exchequer had remitted the Irish assessed taxes, as he might say, entirely. To prevent illicit distillation, he had also made a very considerable sacrifice of revenue, hoping by so doing to confer a teal happiness on Ireland, however costly the experiment might be to the funds of the empire; and for the amelioration of the tithe system, a bill had been very recently under their discussion. thing was now said of what the government had done in these respects; but new evils were brought forward as the first, and chiefest, and those which, above all others, and before others, ought to be re-With honourable gentlemen on the other side the old Latin proverb of "extinctus amabilis" seemed to be reversed; for all past measures were forgotten, almost as soon as born, and all expectations were lavished on those which were yet to come. The right hon. gent. concluded by expressing his determination to oppose the amend-· ment.

After a few words from Mr. Denman and Mr. W. Smith,

Sir H. Parnell, after all that had been said on this subject, remained so fully convinced of the necessity of an inquiry such as he proposed, that he should take the sense of the house upon his amendment. The house then divided: For the amendment, 39—For the second reading, 88—Majority, 49.

The reciprocity duties bill went through a committee, and the report was ordered to be received to-morrow.

Mr. Brogden brought up the reports of the committees of ways and means and supply, which were agreed to, with the exception of a few resolutions of the latter, the consideration of which was deferred till to-morrow.

On the motion of Lord Nugent, the offices bill went through a committee. The report was then received, and ordered to be taken into further consideration on Thursday.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the house ad-

journed.

House of Lords, June 25.—Mr. Brogden, accompanied by other members of the House of Commons, brought up the Court of Chancery (Ireland) bill, which was afterwards read a first time, and the Irish grand jury presentment bill, with their lordships' amendments, agreed to-

A person from the Court of Great Sessions in Wales presented a return from the Carmarthen circuit; and a person from the Treasury presented the supplement to the fifth report of the Commissioners of Inquiry in Ireland.

The Earl of Shaftesbury presented a second report of the committee relative to the appellate jurisdiction of the House of Lords, which was ordered to be printed.

The commercial credit bill (Iroland) went through a committee, and was reported without amendments.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, June 25.— The report of the Scotch jury bill was agreed to. The bill itself was ordered to be read a third time to-morrow.

The lottery bill and the Exchequer bills' bill were read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time to-morrow.

The ill-treatment of cattle amendment bill was read a second time,

and

and ordered to be committed on Monday next.

On the motion of Mr. Sergeant Onslow, the report of the usury laws' repeal bill was agreed to, and the bill was ordered to be read a third time on Friday.

Mr. Brougham said that he held in his hand a petition signed by 2000 Roman Catholics of Ireland, which complained of the general oppression in which that class of bis Majesty's subjects to which they belonged were holden, not only by the inequality of the laws as far as regarded them, but also by the unequal administration of the laws as they at present existed. That complaint, though it was stated with no less accuracy than force of language, contained nothing in it that was in the slightest degree disrespectful to the house. As he intended to ground a proceeding upon this petition, it was unnecessary for him to state any thing further regarding its contents, than that the foundation of them was, first, the inequality, and, secondly, the unequal administration of the laws, as respected Roman Catholics. He thought it as well to state, before he sat down, that the petition was signed by many of the most respectable Catholic inhabitants of Dublin, and that it would have been signed by as many thousands as it now had bundreds, had not the petitioners thought it necessary to send it with all speed to London, in order that it might be in his hands before the day on which he had given notice of his intention to make a motion regarding the present state of Ireland.

The petition was then brought up and laid upon the table.

In moving that it should be printed, Mr. Brougham declared his intention of moving to-morrow, that this petition be referred to the standing committee upon courts of justice.

Petitions were also presented against slavery—the combination laws—from Mr. Haydon the historical painter, who was confined in the King's Bench, complaining of injury he sustained in devoting himself to the study of historical painting, and praying Parliament to take the cause of artists generally into their consideration—against any alteration in the laws relating to the export of wool—against the Irish Union duties upon goods imported in an unfinished state.

Mr. Hume, after referring to the state of parties in Ireland, by which he said patronage was refused to the Catholic, and that the public offices contained the following proportions:—

=	Protestants.	Catholics.
In the Post-office	431	25
Royal Dublin Society.	134	6
Commissioners of Pavil	g 16	<u>e</u>
Commissioners of the		
Port of Dublin	35	0
Commissioners of Wid	8	
Streets	26	0
Trustees of Linen Boar		
Officers dependent on the	8	
Linen Board	71	3
Commissioners of Stam		
Court of Chancery		
Court of King's Bench.		
Corogers	181	16
Commissioners of Affida	<b>-</b>	
vite	262	20
Commissioners of Cus-		
toms	296	11
Commissioners of Pucie	e onk	6

adverted to the expense of the establishment of the Lord Lieutenant, the whole of whose duties he thought might as well be managed by the home department in London: he therefore moved an address to his Majesty, praying for the appointment of a commission to inquire whether the Government of Ireland ought to be continued in

its present form, or whether the Lord Lieutenant and the officers forming his establishment might not henceforward be dispensed with.

Mr. Ricardo seconded the mo-

It was also supported by Sir H. Parnell.

It was opposed by Mr. Canning, Mr. Peel, Mr. Goulburn, Mr. C. N. Dawson, and others, and negatived without a division.

Sir J. Newport rose to submit to the house the motion of which he had given notice, relating to the accounts of diocesan and parish schools in Ireland, and the reports of the commissioners of education there, with the view of more detailed inquiry at the commencement of the ensuing session into the means of imparting most efficaciously to the whole body of the people, without religious distinction, its essential benefits, and rendering the funds available which were destined for that great national object. His object, he observed, was to pledge Parliament that they would, at an early period next year, enter into a full investigation of this interesting question, in order that they might deliberately consider what had been done for the general education of the people of Ireland. Many years ago, education was looked upon as the only effectual cure for the evils by which Ireland was borne down. In 1787 the subject was deeply considered, and a plan of general education was about to be set on foot: but the death of the duke of Rutland prevented the project from being carried into effect. March 1788, a bill was brought in, appointing commissioners to inquire into the disposition of all revenues

which had been intended for charitable institutions. The commissioners discovered that in the province of Ulster, the public grants which were voted for the support of the Protestant free schools had been diverted from that object. The commissioners under that act of Parliament, which is continued by a subsequent act down to June 1796, detected numerous abuses of the grossest nature: they found that in many instances the money which should have been devoted to the education of the people, had made its way into the pockets of private individuals. In 1796, it being discovered that persons of weight and consideration had participated in those abuses, the act was suffered to expire, and no report was made to Parliament. In 1806 a Magistrate's book, containing a statement of the conduct of those who had abused the fund of certain charities, happened to fall into his (Sir J. Newport's) hands, which he immediately communicated to the then Lord Lieutenant, the Duke of Bedford, and also to an old friend of his, who was then in office. With their assent and approbation be subsequently brought forward a motion for the appointment of commissioners of education, who were nominated under the act of the 46th of the late King. In consequence of their representations, beneficial measures were adopted with respect both to royal and private scholastic foundations, and they afterwards entered on the subject of parochial schools. These schools were ordered to be founded in the time of Henry VIII., immediately after the reformation. It was then enacted that every parochial clergyman, on entering on his benefice, should contract a solemn

lemn engagement to keep or cause to be kept a school for teaching the English language. Annexed to these schools were to be various lands, the profits of which were to be applied to the extension of the benefits of education to the people in general. At a very early period the anxiety of the people for those benefits was very remarkable. The right honourable baronet then alluded to the establishment of diocesan schools in Ireland, as projected by a statute passed the 10th of July, 1813, in conformity with the report of some commissioners who had been appointed to inquire into all matters connected with this subject. To show how little the original project had been pursued, and to prove how necessary inquiry into the matter was, he would refer the house to the returns of diocesan schools lately laid before them. From the dioceses of Killaloe, Meath, and others, and the archbishoprics of Armagh and Tuam, no return at all had been forwarded. These returns. however, were, in fact, almost entirely unintelligible. In the Archbishopric of Tuam, where there were twenty-four benefices, only six had schools; and of these, three were entirely supported by the clergy. In the diocess of Cloyne, fifty-eight benefices were returned. and of these only twenty had schools. In an account lately published, it appeared that the value of the benefices in the diocess of Cloyne was 40,000l. a-year; and this was confirmed by the statement of Mr. Bates, in the first volume of his Parochial Survey. the diocess of Elphin there was a considerable number of diocesan schools; but those were maintained by the London Hibernian so-

There was one case, however, in which a Protestant school had been kept up in a manner so disinterested and honourable, that the house would willingly pardon him (Sir J. Newport) if he mentioned one or two particulars. the parish of Archol, in the diocess of Ferns, a return had been made highly creditable to the clergyman of the place, Mr. Mahon, who had built one of two school-houses at his sole and entire expense. After entering into some further details connected with the management of such schools, the right bon. baronet concluded by stating, that he thought the only proper system of education to be pursued there, was one which, by the exclusion of any set formula or catechism, should induce the children of Roman Catholic and of Protestant parents indifferently to participate in the advantages of religious instruction. The Bible might there be put in the hands of children with such a commentary as he (Sir J. Newport) had lately seen, going solely to elucidate particular passages requiring explanation, but which were explained without any view to the establishment of this or that particular dogma or tenet. His object was, to extend to Ireland, in the best and most useful way, a system of general education for the people. He should therefore take the liberty of moving two resolutions:

"1. That this house, deeply impressed with the serious responsibility imposed on Parliament of providing by every proper means for the general instruction of the people, will, at an early period of the next session, enter into an enquiry as to the state of education in Ireland; with a view of extending

its blessings to all classes, without religious distinction or preference, and in such manner as to make available for these purposes the funds that may have been provided either by private benefactions or public bounty, by private donors or by statutory gift; subject to no other limitation than such as the will of the donors, or the wisdom of Parliament, may have respectively suggested.

"2. That in order to facilitate such inquiry, returns be forthwith prepared and presented of all the diocesan schools of Ireland (under 53 Geo. III. c. 107), their foundations, endowments, &c.; also of all disbursements made out of such funds and endowments, during the last ten years; and that statements be made out by the commissioners of education and charities in Dublin, of the amount of all property recovered to the funds of such schools, after having been misapplied or otherwise diverted."

He added, that if wished to name any additional reason why the appointment of this committee of inquiry, next session, would be desirable, he would say that the last report of the commissioners in question was very meagre.

Mr. Goulburn thought it was a foolish and inexpedient thing in general, and particularly in the present case, for Parliament to enter into pledges in one session as to what it would do in another. He objected also to this species or mode of parliamentary interference with the management of the parochial establishments. As little could he concur in the proposition of educating Roman Catholics and Protestant children on one and the same system, without making them sensible, as suggested by the right

hon. baronet; of the distinctions the tween their respective creeds. While he was opposed to the motion, he was friendly to inquiry next session, and assured the right hon. baronet that he was very willing to give all the information on these matters that he could command. He did recommend him, however, to withdraw his resolutions.

Mr. S. Rice contended that inquiry, such as was proposed by the right hon. baronet, was clearly called for; and expressed his actisfaction at the promise of the right hon. gentleman (Mr. Goulburn) to give every information on these topics in his power.

Sir J. Newport, in explanation, said he willingly withdrew his resolutions: his object, which was to ascertain the disposition of the right honourable gentleman upon the subject, being completely obtained.

Mr. Peel having introduced a bill about parechial schools, to which the right hon barenet had alluded, begged to say that he hoped their condition would form one of the principal subjects of the inquiry of next session, in whatever way it might be instituted.

After a few words from Mr. C. Grant, who gave an account of the first establishment and subcequent progress of the diocesan schools, the resolutions were with-

The labour of convicts bill was then read a third time, and passed. On the motion for reading the capital punishments' repeal bill,

Sir J. Macintosh rose to propose an amendment. He observed that he had taken the earliest opportunity of expressing his objection to the amelioration of the criminal

laws

lews proposed by the Government this session, because he thought that it was inadequate to the pledge which Parliament gave last session, and did not go far enough to satisfy the wishes of the public. The object of the amendment which be intended to submit was not to effect a more extensive reformation of the criminal laws than was proposed by the bill, but merely to make the bill do what it professed to do in its preamble, namely, to take away the capital punishmen in certain cases which were specit The house was aware that many bills had been introduced to repeal the act of the 10th of William, which made shoplifting to the amount of 5s. a capital offence. Several of those bills had passed the house of commons, but they had always been thrown out in the house of lords, except in the last instance, in 1821, when the house of peers amended the bill by declaring that shoplifting, unless to the amount of 151., should not be a capital offence. Since the passing of the act of 1821, the judges had held that stealing in a shop attached to a dwelling house to the amount of 40s., was a capital offence under the statute of the 12th of Anne, commonly called the stealing in a dwelling-house act. This judicial construction completely defeated the intention of the act of 1821. The object of his amendment, therefore, was only to carry into effect that act. For that purpose he moved, that after the words "privately stealing goods or chattels in any shop, warehouse, coach-house, or stable," be added the words " although such shop, warehouse, coach-house, or stable, be attached

to, or detached from a dwelling-

The Attorney-general felt himself bound to oppose the amendment. The object of the bill here the house was merely to carry into effect what had been proposed by his honourable and learned friend himself—namely, to repeal the act of William, but to leave that of Anne untouched. He could see no reason why privately stealing in a shop, which formed a material parcel of a dwelling-house, should not be considered as great a crime as stealing in any other part of the house.

Mr. J. Williams was of opinion, that the intention of the act of 1821 would be defeated, unless his honourable and learned friend's amendment were carried.

The Solicitor-general opposed the amendment.

Mr. F. Buxton and Mr. G. Lamb supported the amendment.

Mr. Peel defended the principle of the bill, and contended, that in it he was pursuing the course adopted by Sir S. Romilly in the measures which he had introduced some few years back.

After a few words from Mr. Wilberforce, Mr. Alderman Thomposon, and Mr. R. Martin, in support of the amendment, and from Mr. W. Courtenay and Mr. Alderman Bridges in favour of the bill without amendment, the house divided, when there appeared:—For the amendment, 19—Against it, 35.

The question—"That the bill do pass, "was carried in the affirmative.

On the motion of *Mr. Peel*, the felonies (benefit of clergy) bill was read a third time, and passed.

On the motion of Mr. Peel,

the

the sentence of death bill was read a third time.—On the question that

· it do pass,

Sir J. Macintosh said, he had two amendments to propose to the bill. The honourable and learned gentleman, after some few observations, concluded by moving an amendment of the preamble, by leaving out certain words to suit it to the enacting clause; and a clause to give the judges the power to pronounce the punishment of transportation or imprisonment in cases where they do not think it reasonable that the punishment of death should be inflicted.

Mr. R. Martin complained that his honourable and learned friend had proposed as an amendment the very words of a clause which he (Mr. R. Martin) had introduced in his bill, and which the hon, and learned gentleman had

then opposed.

The Attorney-general opposed the amendment.

After a few words from Mr. F. Buxton, and Sir James Macintosh, the amendments were put, and negatived without a division. The bill then passed.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the

house adjourned.

House of Lords, June 26.— Mr. Brogden, accompanied by several other members of the House of Commons, brought up the convicts' employment, felonies' repeal, the sentence of death, and some private bills, which were afterwards read the first time.

On the motion of Lord Melville, the London-bridge bill. was read

the second time.

Lord Ellenborough presented two petitions against the bill—one from

the Lord Mayor, Aldermen, and Common Council of the city of London, and the other from the churchwarden and inhabitants of St. Magnus the Martyr.

The petitions were referred to

the committee on the bill.

The Earl of Limerick presented a petition from an individual against the Irish Court of Chancery bill.

Earl Grosvenor, adverting the returns for which he had moved on a former occasion respecting sinecure offices, observed, that they were very imperfect, and it was therefore his intention to move for further returns, as it was extremely desirable that the question should be perfectly understood of what sinecure offices there were now existing, as well as to come to some understanding upon those offices which, if not sinecures, came at least so near to that character that they appeared to come within the opinion adopted by the legislature as to sinecure offices. The office of Clerk of the Parliament was undoubtedly a sinecure, and two of the Lords of the Admiralty, and one of the Post-Masters General, ought certainly to be What he wished now abolished. was, that the country should know whether there existed any sinecure offices or not. The noble earl concluded by moving for a return of all offices formerly executed by deputy, but now by the principal, and also a return of all offices where salaries are paid and no duties performed.

The Earl of Liverpool expressed his readiness to give every information, but he really did not know of the existence of any offices of the description alluded to in the last

last required return, and could not tell to what offices to apply for such a return.

After a few words from the Earl of Lauderdale, the first return was ordered, but the motion for the latter return was negatived.

Lord King presented a petition from Richard Gaythorne Butt, complaining of oppressive conduct on the part of the Treasury Board. Ordered to lie on the table.

The Earl of Liverpool, in rising to move the order of the day for taking into consideration the report of the committee on the appellate jurisdiction, said it was not his intention to proceed further than to bring in a bill which had been prepared, founded on the report of the committee, and also to propose certain standing orders, might be read the first time, be printed, and then stand over for further consideration. After detailing the present number of appeals before the house-being annually from England, the average of five; from Ireland, eight or nine; and from Scotland forty-his lordship observed that the Scotch appeals were the cause of all the arrears, and that upon these Scotch appeals English noblemen were called to decide, who were generally ignorant of Scottish law. His lordship was therefore of opinion, that the attendance of the Scottish peers should be compelled upon those occasions.

The Earl of Carnaroon opposed the bill.

The Earl of Rosslyn supported it.

After a few words in explanation from the Earl of Carnarcon, in which he said he would have no objection to the attendance on Scotch appeals being made compulsory on the sixteen Scotch peers, who must be presumed to know the Scotch law; the bill was read a first time, and the second reading fixed for Monday.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and their lord-

ships adjourned.

House of Commons, June 26.— Colonel Wood presented petitions against slavery from the parishes of Crickhowell and Llangattock.— Ordered to be printed.

The house went into a committee on the settlement of the poor bill. The report was brought up, read, and ordered to be taken into consideration this day three months. The bill, with its amendments, was ordered to be printed.

On the motion of Mr. Herries, the lotteries' bill, the equalization of duties' bill, and the exchequer bills' bill, were read a second time. The two first were ordered to be committed to-morrow, and the last on Monday next.

The Holyhead and Howth harbours' bill was read a third time

and passed.

Sir G. Noel gave notice, that he should to-morrow present a petition from her Royal Highness the Princess Olive of Cumberland, praying to be heard at the bar of that house by her counsel or agent, in support of her Royal Highness's title.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer gave notice, that he should to-morrow, in the committee of ways and means, move a resolution regarding the sum of money received from the East India Company on account of the half-pay of his Majesty's troops in their service; and that on Wednesday next he should

enter

forward.

enter upon the recapitulation of what had been done respecting the finances in the committee on the

appropriation act.

Mr. Brougham presented a petition, which had been sent to him from Ireland, by an individual of the name of George Rowan, of whom he had no knowledge, nor of the facts which he stated in his petition. He had a painful duty to perform in presenting this petition, inasmuch as it reflected upon the conduct and character of a member of the house. He should therefore do nothing more than move that this petition be brought up immediately.

The petition was accordingly brought up, and read at length; the substance of it was as follows: It stated that the petitioner had been dismissed from a situation which he held in the excise bymeans of a conspiracy which had been formed against him by W. M. Twiss and others—that W. M. Twiss had been appointed to the situation which the petitioner had filled, by the interest of Colonel. Crosbie, his father-in-law-that in consequence of some defalcation in his accounts. W. M. Twiss had been diamissed from it, and that he had recently been re-appointed to it, though he was confined at the time for debt in the Marshalsea prison at Dublin, and was seeking the benefit of the insolvent debtors' It accused Colonel Crosbie of having taken a bribe of 1000L to secure this appointment to Mr. Twiss, and also charged him with receiving, on several distinct occasions, money for the patronage which he had in his disposal.

On the motion that this petition be laid on the table.

Cal. Crosbie said that it was true that Mr. Twiss, who was his sonin-law, had obtained through his interest the appointment of collector of the excise, but that it was false that he had received for it any sum of money whatever. He likewise denied, in the most positive and unqualified manner, that he had ever received a farthing for the situation to which he had got his nephew, Mr. Bateman, appointed. He could only say that the charges which the petitioner had brought against him were false and unfounded, and that he should adopt every means in his power to compel him to make redress for bringing them so publicly

Mr. Croker said, that to a certain degree he could corroborate the statement of the honourable gentlemen who had just set down. Mr. Twiss, with whom he had become acquainted whilst going the circuit in Ireland, had recently called upon him, and had applied for his good offices in recovering. the situation from which he bad been removed. He had told Mr. Twiss, that he would make the requisite inquiries in Ireland, and if the answer was satisfactory, would employ what interest he had in his. behalf. He had made those inquiries—the result of them had been satisfactory—and the consequence was, that Mr. Twiss was re-appointed to his situation. Mr. Twiss brought bim no recommendation from Colonel Crosbie, ner, indeed, from any other person. He thought it right to add, that he had: never had the slightest communication with Colonel Croshie, on this: subject.

Mr. C. W. Wynn asked, when

ther it was right that a petition should be laid on the table, which charged a member of the house with an offence for which he was indictable in a court of law. If such a petition were suffered to lie on the table, the house must, for its own credit, as well as for that of the honourable member accused. enter into an investigation of the charges it contained. As the ordinary tribunals of the country were competent to entertain the accusations of the petitioner, he thought that there was no occasion for the house to take them up. He therefore suggested to his hon, and learned friend to withdraw the petition.

Mr. Brougham consented to the suggestion of the right hon, and learned gentleman, especially as the petitioner would have an opportunity of presenting a similar petition in the next session, if he thought fit. Should the petitioner determine to present this petition a second time, he would do it with the foreknowledge that he would incur a great responsibility if it were found to be groundless, and that he would be liable to severe punishment for a breach of privilege in accusing a member of parliament of a scandalous misdemeanour, without having grounds on which to substantiate εο heinous a charge. grounds he should withdraw the petition, being convinced that in so doing he should not be committing an act of injustice to any party .---The petition was then withdrawn.

Sir J. Macintosh gave notice, that on Thursday next he would move for copies of any instructions transmitted by the British ministers to Sir W. A'Court, for the regulation of his conduct, in case changes were introduced by the Cortes into the internal government of Spain.

Mr. Brougham, having moved that the petition of the Roman Catholics of Ireland be entered as read, said that he had never risen to address the house under feelings of greater anxiety: when he recollected the vast talent on both sides of the house, employed at various periods on topics connected with the subject of the petition. and the multitude of persons in Ireland earnestly looking at the result of this discussion-when he considered even the strength of the case committed to his charge; and, more than all, the present state of the sister kingdom, it might well be supposed that he felt somewhat overawed at the task he had undertaken. The petitioners themselves had rendered the duty incalculably more difficult; whereas, when the Catholic question was discussed, the affairs of Ireland, and the intolerant and injudicious scheme of policy, long pursued there, had been constant matters of debute, and had been handled by the ablest men in every different form in which they could be shaped by talent and ingenuity: and whereas the great desideratum now was to supply an answer to this question, "what is the practical effect of that system?"-to solve this difficulty, how do the penal laws operate in Ireland, not merely upon individuals of rank excluded from the higher offices of the state, but upon all classes, from the loftiest to the lowliest? -- and whereas the petitioners, in the very title of their representation of grievance, complained of "inequality

quality in the administration of the law," yet they who of all others were able to give the best information—to afford the clearest solution —to stop the mouths of those who maintained that there was no practical evil, by showing that justice was not equally administered, by giving facts in detail - the petitioners, intimately acquainted with the merits of their own case, deeply feeling the grievances under which they laboured, and having daily and hourly experience of the consequences of the present system, had nevertheless omitted all statements of particulars, and had confined themselves merely to general declarations. When parties entered a court of justice in this country (for in this country there happily were courts of justice) rich and poor were treated with the same impartiality. The law. thank God, was administered equally to both; but the petitioners feeling, and well knowing the existence of the melancholy facts on which they relied, no more thought of introducing them into their statement, than any petitioner in this kingdom would take upon himself to explain and expound the excellence of our own judicial system. A petitioner could never dream of telling the house that juries were not packed; that judges were decorous, and never sacrificed the rights of parties to a ribald joke; that chancellors held even the balance of justice between Protestants and Catholics, episcopalians and dissenters; that here the keeper of the great seal would never think of striking a gentleman out of the commission of the peace because he was a sectary, as had been done in Ireland—the keeper of the great

seal there admitting that in so doing he had been guilty of an act of gross injustice, yet eight years afterwards repeating it. In England, in administering the law to a creditor against his debtor, we should never think of inquiring whether he was or was not able to bribe an under-sheriff. In England the King's writ ran into all parts of the country—here there was no land of Goshen-our courts were open to the poorest suppliant, and, however humble or unprotected, he had an equal chance with his titled adversary; nay, though be were addicted to sectarian opinions, instead of paying his devotions in a The petitioners were cathedral. in themselves a most important class, and they represented many thousand others; for the petition would have been signed by tens of thousands, had a few more days been allowed. The signatures already obtained were from persons of commanding influence, who spoke the sense of six millions of his Majesty's subjects, who were strongly persuaded that the law in Ireland is not as it is in England that he would be guilty, not of extravagant flattery merely, but of intolerable mockery, of gross and ridiculous irony, who should attempt to compare the two. petitioners, and he was sorry to say the whole people of Ireland, had suppressed their most important facts: they had lost, as it were, the articulate language of remonstrance, and had had recourse rather to exclamations of despair, and these exclamations had been followed in some instances by acts of open aggression; -exclamations of despuir were the forerunners of such acts, and often

at too short a distance. While he was yet speaking, these outrages had broken forth, and it was impossible for any man to be so little acquainted with these transactions as not to be aware that he (Mr. Brougham) was guilty of any thing but exaggeration when he took upon himself to assert that for the last thirty years. Ireland had never been in a more alarming state, as the law which created an inequality in religious sects could not be equally administered. The law at present separated the King's subjects into two classes—it severed those who ought to be as brothers under the same paternal government. The law of England viewed the subjects of the realm as brothers, and the king as their common parent: but the law of Ireland held a language widely different. marshalled man against man, sect against sect: it employed religious tenets on the one hand to foment (if it were not to profane the word) religious animosities on the other. The law of England esteemed all men equal—it was sufficient to be born within the King's allegiance to be entitled to all the rights the loftiest subject of the land enjoyed. None were disqualified by it, and the only distinction was between natural-born subjects and Such, indeed, was the liberality of our system in times which we called barbarous (but from which, in these enlightened days, it might be well to take a hint), that if a man were even an alien born, he was not deprived of the protection of the law. Ireland the law held a directly opposite doctrine: the sect to which a man belonged—the cast of his

religious opinions — the form in which he worshipped his Creatorwere the grounds on which the law separated him from his fellows. and banned him to the endurance of a system of the most cruel injustice. Not only this, but on the very same grounds, and with, if possible, less right-with, if possible, more impolicy, and with, if possible, greater cruelty, it leagued him against all who held opposite notions, as essentially, as justly, and as implacably, as his enemies were combined against him. (Mr. Brougham) granted that some great and salutary alterations had taken place. Since 1778, but more especially since 1793, important improvements in the code had been effected. The odious distinctions had been in a great degree mitigated. What remained, was nothing in comparison with what had been taken away. Enough, indeed, was left to make an absurd and ridiculous difference-absurd and ridiculous when viewed by the eye of the philosopher, but melan. choly and degrading when contemplated with the eye of the politician. It was fit, however, to mention a few facts, which he should be prepared to prove at the bar, should the house adopt the proposition with which he intended to conclude. In all he should now offer, the house was to consider that he was in truth tendering evidence, and he should scrupulously abstain from every thing which could not, as he was satisfied, be substantiated by legal testimony, either of witnesses or of When the subject was so records. extensive, it was of little importance where he began; but he would commence with one of the most material

material parts of it—the state of the magistracy in Ireland, by whose local jurisdictions justice ought, in fact, to be brought home, as it were, to every man's door. Īt was in vain to deny that in England abuses had from time to time crept into this branch of the administration of justice; but various salutary acts had been passed on the one hand, to protect magistrates acting bona fide, and on the other, to guard the King's subjects from malversation, and misuse of power, sometimes purely discretionary. It was by no means a matter of frequent complaint in this country, that improper individuals were included in the magistracy. In England, a rule had been laid down by the keepers of the great seal (indeed he had seen it stated under the hand of the present Lord Chancellor), that they never would strike a person out of the commission, whatever private charges might be brought against him, unless he had been brought to trial, and convicted by the verdict of a He (Mr. Brougham) had known an instance of a magistrate several times accused of perjury, with complaints against him by a wast majority of his fellows in the commission, whom the Lord Chancellor peremptorily refused to oust because he had been tried and ac-He recollected another quitted. case in Durham, about ten years ago, where the bishop, as custos rotulorum, had been obliged to reinstate a certain magistrate, because, though accused, he had not He did not been brought to trial. mean that this rule was applicable to Ireland—a much greater latitude of discretion was required there; not only the present but former chancellors, Lord Redesdale and

the late Mr. Ponsonby, had agreed upon this point. But he was not without particular facts and authorities, and he would just call the attention of the house to a few of those authorities, choosing only a few instances out of a great variety. The late Lord Gosford, governor of the county of Armagh, on a memorable occasion had said, that " justice had been suffered to disappear, and the supineness of the magistracy to become the common topic of conversation in every corner of the kingdom." Before he proceeded further, he would just mention that the word supineness would often occur in what he should read, and that it was to be understood as a delicate mode of expressing a disinclination to suppress violence in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred—the Orange violence The late against the Catholics. Mr. Grattan was certainly a party man-in the highest, truest, and most honourable sense he performed what he justly considered the important duties of party; but of all members on the opposition side of the house, his authority was the most unexceptionable, because he had undeviatingly observed the strictest accuracy in his etails, and was little liable to the impatation of being carried away by He was a man of enthusiasm. singular candour and of great moderation, and from his entrance into public life to the illustrious close of his career, had given most signal proofs of his moderation, of his extreme forbearance, may, of his gentleness. He had observed, on one occasion, that the government "trifled with the northern weaver, when it sent him to a grand jury;" and he added, that "the supineness and partiality of the magistracy

magistracy had been the occasion of his sufferings and his losses." Mr. Ponsonby, who had filled the office of Lord Chancellor in Ireland, and was therefore so competent to judge on the question, looking back to the time when he had held the great seal, had said with becoming reserve, that " the magistrates too often had been any thing but what they ought to have been." Mr. Justice Day, in an address to the grand jury, had charged them with " negligence, corruption, and partiality:" and the late Lord Kingston complained of some men as "a disgrace to the magistracy, deserving rather to be hanged, than to be included in the commission." The charge of Judge Fletcher, in the year 1814, was well known. It was an able and elaborate production, and next to delivering no political charge at all, the greatest merit was to deliver one so sound in its doctrines. that they were liable to no excep-Talking of the Orange societies, he said, that " they poisoned the very fountains of justice." and that " even some magistrates, under their influence, had in too many instances violated their duty and their oaths." Thence he proceeded to say that such associations were most permicious, whether consisting of Orange or Ribandmen, and adding, that under their influence petty juries had declined to do their duty: it was sufficient to say such a man displayed such a colour to produce an utter disbelief of his testimony; and when another has stood with his hand at the bar, the display of his party badge has mitigated the murder into manslaughter. These sentiments, coming from a man discharging judicial duties, were of

the highest importance. Thence he proceeded to condemn all those associations bound together by unlawful oaths, remarking "With these Orange associations I connect all commemorations and processions producing embittering recollections, and inflicting wounds upon the feelings of others. do emphatically state it as my settled opinion, that until those associations are put down, and the arms taken from their hands. in vain will the north of Ireland expect tranquillity or peace." The learned judge went on to censure the unlawful oaths (such as had been treated with so much respect in this house on a recent occasion) taken by the members of the associations; and of the magistrates he said, that " some were over zealous, and some on the contrary were supine," and he complained that " jobbers of absentees" and " traders in false loyalty," among others, were too often put into the commission. Eight years afterwards, the same learned judge did not appear to have found any material amendment in the magistracy, and in one of his last charges he had asserted, that the conduct of the magistracy " might ultimately drive thous sands to rebellion." A great deal had been said of late respect. ing a reform in the commission of the peace of Ireland, and twelve counties had undergone the opera-If the scheme had been executed with the same honest and zealous intention for improvement with which it was undertaken; much good might have been the result; but if he (Mr. Brougham) were rightly informed, little or no advantage had been the consequence; the measure having been treated as

one rather of form than of substance. He had been told (and to this point he could produce evidence at the bar) that, in six counties, 152 magistrates had been displaced. number looked as if a great sweeping and radical change had been effected, but, in truth, the vast majority of the 152 consisted of absentees, English and Irish militia officers, and many others incapacitated from age, sickness, and not a few by death. How many did the house think, out of the whole 152. had been really removed for reasons such as those to which the charge was originally intendto apply? Only fourteen.-Twenty-five had been removed in one county, and in another fifteen, all of whom were incapacitated for the various causes he had named. IMr. Goulburn asked, across the table, to what county the honourable gentleman referred? The county of Monaghan; and since the question had been put, he would just add, that among those removed for being sick, or dead, or absent, or an English militia officer, or an Irish militia officer, was not Sir Harcourt Lees: he was continued in the commission. In the county of Dublin, Major Sirr had not been removed, and he (Mr. Brougham) thought that there was just ground to complain that he was still in the commission. maintained that it was an insult to the people of Dublin, to the people of Ireland, over whom he exercised all the nameless tyrannies of the last rebellion. Even on the footing of the rule of the Lord Chancellor of England, his name ought to be instantly struck out. Nevertheless he was allowed to be at the head of the police of Dublin, and he had told the house at the bar that he

there daily and mightly acted as one of the magistrates. Yet in the city of Dublin itself a jury of his country gave a verdict against him for one of the grossest and foulest oppressions—so gross and foul, that the oldest practitioner of our courts could find no parallel. The charge included in it the most base and perfidious fraud; for to eke out the measure of his justice and to overwhelm his victim, it was proved at the trial that an order had been fabricated, the fabrication of which was vouched by his friend - his accomplice - his tool—the very man, in short, who had perpetrated the instrument. It was to that man that the victim had been delivered—to Major Sandys; and when Mr. Curran exclaimed, "There sits Major Sandys; if my witnesses deceive you, let Major Sirr put his friend and associate in cruelty in the box to deny it if he can." Major Sirr dared not do it; Major Sandys dared not come forward, and all who had ears to hear, or eyes to see, were convinced with the jury that Major Sirr stood self-convicted. Still he had been kept in his office -still be was employed; and twenty-two years afterwards, when he had grown gray in the service, he had been heard to declare at the bar of the house, "I am still on the bench of justice!" Look at the effect of these arrangements in commitments in Irelandcommitments made and signed by such magistrates as he had described. Melancholy to relate, there were more commitments in Ireland—taking the average of the last four years—than in England and Wales together; but how did the average stand, as to the number of convictions? Why, in those countries

countries where law and justice were equally administered, in England and Wales there had been 43,000 commitments and 29,000 convictions; but in Ireland, with a list of commitments exceeding 45,000, the number of convictions had not exceeded 16,000. recorded opinions of men of talents and experience—to facts in proof before the house, an argument still more powerful—to these evidences in favour of the proposition which he was now supporting, he (Mr. Brougham) would add the memorable declaration of Lord Redesdale in the House of Peers—a declaration which admitted the utmost point he could contend for. had Lord Redesdale, the High Chancellor of Ireland—what had he said of the state of the administration of justice in that country? What was the opinion of Lord Redesdale, delivered only in July last, as to the state of the law in Ireland? His lordship had said this: -" I have been intimately connected with that ill-fated country (Ireland) for the last twenty years; and I am sorry to say, that there exists in it two sorts of justicethe one for the rich, the other for the poor-both equally ill administered." And this was the effect of twenty years' experience upon the mind of the highest law officer (an Englishman too) in Ireland. he (Mr. Brougham) would go even farther; he would give evidence of the fact; he would show, and beyond the possibility of quibble, that the fact was distinctly as Lord Redesdale had stated it; and that if the noble lord had not stated the fact, he would have been wrong, for that the circumstances made its statement an imperative duty. In a country which enjoyed the 1823.

blessing of trial by jury, the manner in which juries were selected was a point of no slight importance. Now, excepting in the counties where the sheriffs were elected by the judges, in all corporations, (these corporations being formed of men full of prejudice against the Catholics, open to Papists certainly by law, but shut against them with all the obstinacy of bigotry by practice)—in all corporation towns, the sheriff who chose the juries was himself the selected creature of that select and prejudiced body. He was not about to enter into the late affair of the Sheriff of Dublin, but he would remind the house of an incident not relating to the present sheriff (Mr. Thorpe). A gentleman of the name of Dillon M'Namara, an attorney of many years' standing, had been summoned upon the late inquiry; and, by way of discrediting his evidence, the following questions had been put to him:-"Did you not, some years ago, offer a bribe to a sub-sheriff of Dublin if he would pack a jury to get off a client of yours, who was going to be tried for forgery?" — Answer, "Yes, I did."—" Did he pack the jury?" - Answer, " No, he could not, because the panel was up at the Castle." Did not the sub-sheriff, it would be asked, perhaps, indignantly reject the bribe? Did he not treat the offer as every subsheriff in every county in England would treat it, and get no thanks nor credit for so treating it either? Mr. M'Namara's answer as to that point made no mention of indignation; he simply stated the conduct of the sheriff. The subsheriff said, that if he wished to do the thing, " it was not in his power, because the panel was gone up to 2 A the

the Castle." But the thing, good as it was, became better still, as the questions went on. Question, " Did not the sub-sheriff reject the bribe?" - Answer, " He did not get the bribe." Mr. M'Namara would not say be rejected it. Question. "Why did he not get the bribe?" -Answer, "Because he did not do what I wanted him to do." This was not, he (Mr. Brougham) submitted, exactly the kind of dialogue which would have taken place between an attorney and a sub-sheriff in England upon the subject of packing a jury. He would not say that the man who would pack one jury to acquit a prisoner of felony would as readily pack another to convict a prisoner of high treason or of libel; but it would not be too much to suggest that there was a point in money, to which, if the briber could manage to go, he might possibly find access to the ear of the sub-sheriff, even although he should wish to secure a conviction for an offence of that **c**baracter. Again, he would say mothing against the sub-sheriff in question. That individual (and he did not name him) had not, it appeared, received the bribe. But there was the fact before the house that such a bargain had been openly talked of. What would the house say to another practice which he should prove --- which be could prove by competent witnesses to exist in Dublin universally-of the sub-sheriff, whose duty it was to summon the juries, being in the babit of receiving from persons liable to serve, a fee of a guinea ayear, to refrain from calling on them to perform that duty? that those men to whom it was convenient to pay a guinea a-year did not serve on juries at all; while

those who could not afford to pay the guinea were compelled to do double duty, and those who wished to serve (by not paying the guinea) might serve far more frequently than came to their turn. And this precious practice was not peculiar to Dublin. The provinces had the benefit of it, as well as the capital. But the fee in the country places certainly was less-it was half a guinea a-year, not a guinea. that the rich and superior classes, who were best calculated to act as jurymen, gave up, unless where they chose to act, the duty altogether; and it fell into the hands of persons who, whatever their claims, were probably less competent and enlightened, and, from their situations, more open to be influenced. To say the least of this practice, it was improper, indecent such a practice as in England could not be tolerated for an hour. the point became insignificant compared with that which he should next bring forward. He had already said that the King's writ did not run equally through Ireland. Of this fact—that it did not reach equally to all classes of persons—he was ready, if permitted, to give evidence at the bar. He could show, that where a man had money for the purpose, he regularly bribed the sub-sheriff, as soon as that officer came into place; and agreed to pay him all fees upon writs out against him for debt, as though such write were formally served, provided the sheriff would give him timely notice of the issuing of such writs; no doubt that he might be enabled at once to appear and do justice to his creditor! To the poor man, of course, this indulgence did not extend; he was taken with all the rigour of the law, and full justice Was

was executed upon him. He (Mr. Brougham) said, that he could prove this at the bar; but, in fact, it had been proved within the last three days, before a committee above stairs. He would read a note to the house of the evidence upon the subject; and he could venture to say, that but for the painful truths which it established, the document would be amusing. It was an attorney of respectability who now spoke, giving his evidence on the 23d of the present month. "Do you regard the Question. difficulty of obtaining money in Ireland after judgment, as one of the obstacles to English capital being carried to that country?"-Answer. "Certainly I do; and it is one of the greatest evils we have to contend with."- Question. does it arise?"- Answer. " In the management of the office of sheriff -there is no such thing as executing a writ as you do it in England. I mean to confine this to executing it upon persons having the rank and means of gentlemen, and the city of Dublin and the county of Cork are exceptions to the rule. In other places it is the habit, upon the appointment of a sub-sheriff. that he gets notice that he will be paid his fees upon write delivered. if he gives notice to the party that the writ is about to issue."—Ques-" Does this practice prevail generally?"—Auswer. "I understand it to prevail every where except in Cork county and Dublin city; but I dare say there are places even in Cork where an arrangement might be made with the sheriff."—Question. "Is the committee to understand that a different practice prevails with respect to poor debtors?"—Answer. "I suppose that the sheriff, not being

paid for any favour to them, does not show any."-Let hon, members just look to what this " favour" went to produce. A man might have 20,000l. a-year in the English funds, or in any investment which the law did not reach; he might be living in Ireland in the midst of luxury and magnificence; a hundred writs of arrest might be out against his person; but so long as he could bribe the sheriff to give him notice in time, he might defy his creditor, and suffer him to starve. the evidence which he was quoting did not stop at this point. asserted, perhaps, no more in fact than had already been stated; but it gave certain assertions in rather stronger terms. For instance ---Question. "Do you mean to say then, that there is one practice for the higher orders in Ireland, and another for the lower?" - Answer. "Yes." This was pretty plain .--Question. "Stricter in the one case than in the other?"—Answer. "Certainly." Was not this what Lord Redesdale had had in his eye when he had said, "There is one law for the rich, and another for the poor—both equally ill executed?" The evidence given by this man of practical knowledge and babits bore out to the very letter that which Lord Redesdale had assert-He considered Lord Norbury -whom he named in right of his privilege as a member of parliament - that privilege which entitled him to speak his opinion upon judges as freely and unreservedly, as upon sheriffs or subsheriffs, upon attorneys, or upon the meanest of his Majesty's subjects, - no just judge ought in right to object to such a proceeding—no judge would be found just 2 A 2 long

long after the privilege so to proceed was abolished. Our judges in England were just, because they dared not perpetrate injustice; and as long as judges were men, they would dare to perpetrate injustice the moment the power of taxing them with it was lost. He considered that more than a year had elapsed since he had laid before the house a paper addressed by Mr. Saurin, late Attorney-General for Ireland, to the Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas in that country—a letter containing such a proposition as no judge who sat in England would allow his most intimate, his dearest bosom friend, to make to him. He would venture to affirm, that if a letter, like that of which he spoke, had reached any one of the learned judges of England, if it had come from any individual of high situation, the more sudden, the more instant would have been the flash of that honourable person's indignation; if it had come from a near friend, the task to perform would have been harder, but the name of friend would have ceased to belong to the writer from that moment. But here, a year had elapsed since the letter in question had been brought forward, and yet Mr. Saurin had not denied it, nor had Lord Norbury produced his answer. What would have been the answer of an English judge to such a letter? "I return you your proposition-You know not the man whom you have dared to insult." But Lord Norbury had given no answer, or he produced none. (Mr. Brougham) trusted that the answer had not been an answer of assent; but certainly it had not been such an answer as would have been given to such a proposal in

England; or England and Ireland too would long since have been made acquainted with it. Good Let the house consider God! what that letter called upon Lord Norbury to do. To job-to intrigue—for political purposes, upon his circuit! Carrying the ermine upon his robe, and the sword of justice in his hand, he was called upon by the first law-officer of the Crown to prostitute the authority those emblems gave him, to the purpose of a political faction. He was told—" It is the custom" a custom more honoured in the breach than in the observance-" it is the custom for you on the circuit to receive the country gentlemen in your private room, and to talk to them familiarly upon political subjects;" and this was to furnish his lordship with an opportunity of doing good to "the cause." He was in the habit of talking thus to the gentlemen of Philipstown; and, if he could impress upon them the consequences of the measure in question (Catholic emancipation), as that the Catholics would certainly elect Catholic members of parliament, a consequence, by the way, most absurdly predicted; for there was scarcely a man in England could believe that, if Catholic emancipation were granted on the instant, the Irish members returned would be Catholics; but if he could impress upon the country gentlemen that all the members returned would be Catholics, " and that those members would have the nomination of the sheriffs," he (Mr. Brougham) did not see how, "and in many instances perhaps of the judges, he would satisfy them that they could scarce live in the country if the measure were passed."

passed." So here was a judge desired to take the opportunity of his circuit to deliver this lecture at place after place as he went on; and to throw in suggestions, moreover, of such corruption in the general legislation, as would enable the Catholic members returned by the Catholic voters to go up to the treasury, and say, "Make such and such men judges." The people of Ireland were to be told, and told by a judge, that judges might be appointed by political intrigue. Here was Lord Norbury instructed openly to decry the purity of that justice of which he himself ought to have been the ornament. He was to say, first, that the judges were secretly appointed; and next. that they acted corruptly after they were appointed. The information contained in the remaining portion of the letter ran thus:--" If Protestant gentlemen, who have votes and influence and interest, would give these venal members to understand that by betraying their country and its constitution, they will infallibly lose theirs, it would alter their conduct, though it could neither make them honest nor respectable." Honest nor respectable! "If," concluded the Attorney-General for Ireland, "if you will judiciously administer a little of this medicine to the King's county, or any other member of parliament that may fall in your way, you will deserve well." some vindication, however, of Mr. Saurin, for having presumed to write such a letter as this, he (Mr. Brougham) had now to read a story to the house, which he found in a Dublin newspaper, under the head of "Lord Norbury's newest joke;" and, from this story, it would appear that his lordship

-sitting on the bench-had reflected upon a right honourable gentleman, a member of the house, and also that, for the sake of getting at his joke—so much dearer was jest than justice to the noble lord—he had actually refused a rule which ought to have been granted as a matter of course, and which no man could have asked for in England without getting it. The circumstance out of which the ioke arose was this:—A barrister moved for a criminal information against a balf-pay officer who insulted him in court. The officer was offended at something which the counsel had said of him in court, and he used language which. in England, would have made a criminal information a matter of routine. Lord Norbury, however, had refused the rule, and refused it in the following terms:—the motion having been made, and the offensive words stated, he said-"I remember when, if the words had been used to me, I should not have been at a loss in supplying an innuendo. The phrase has certainly a somewhat gladiatorial sound. No man respects or loves the bar more than I do; but great allowance is to be made for the chivalrous propensities of men of the sword. They do not, as Hamlet says in the play, 'set their lives at a pin's fee'." What was this, from a judge on the bench, but saying-" You are a paltry fellow for coming here to me for protection; you know what the man wants: he wants you to go out and fight with him; and why don't you do it?" "On the other hand," his lordship continued, " the gentlemen of the bar have a repugnance to the arrest of that fell sergeant, Death." Why, was it not clear

clear that the rule was refused just for the opportunity to introduce this wretched ribaldry? From which profession the immortal bard drew his illustration, I shall leave to the commentators. He revered the bench only so long as the bench respected itself; and when he met with intrigue where he was entitled to expect purity—ribaldry and flightiness where there ought to be dignity—and duty sacrificed in the course of a legal proceeding for the silly vanity of uttering a trumpery jest-when he found a judge conducting himself-or forgetting himself—in this manner; when he found manifest proof, moreover, that that judge was not above being tampered with by a crown lawyer for party-he might say for corrupt—purposes; when he saw this, his veneration for the individual was gone, and even his patience was not proof against the contemplation of such impropriety. Upon a variety of other topics connected with the ill administration of justice in Ireland, he would detain the house (Mr. Brougham continued) but a very short time. general, it was sufficient to state the practice as it existed, and each particular case furnished sufficiently its own comment. In this condition stood the three systems of the civil bills, the revenue boards, and the assistant barristers. civil bill system it was scarce necessary to go beyond the records of the house. Act after act had been passed upon the subject, each admitting the faults or abuses let in by that which went before it. For the revenue boards, their whole construction carried abuse and mischief upon the face of it: the same individual adjudging forfeiture one moment, and claiming the benefit

of it for his own advantage the next; and control over the liberties and properties of the King's subjects committed to the hands of men without a qualification which should fit them to exercise it. But though he had not exhausted the subject, yet the subject had exhausted him. He could only go so much farther as to beg the house to remember that matters in Ireland could not rest as they were for ever. One day or other the time must come-the house would have to give an account of its stewardship of that country. England, possessing Ireland, was in the possession of that which ought to be her security in peace and her sinew in war; and yet in war what had Ireland been to us but a strength to our enemies, what in peace but an eternal source of revolt and rebellion? Ireland. with a territory of immense extent, with a soil of almost unrivalled fertility, with a climate more genial than the climate of England, with an immense population of strong-built hardy labourers-men suited alike to fill up the ranks of our armies in war, or for employment at home in the works of agriculture or manufactures; -Ireland; with all these blessings which Providence so profesely had showered upon her---we had been stewards over her now for the last hundred and twenty years, but our solicitude for her had appeared only in those hours of danger when we apprehended the possibility of her joining our enemies, or when, having no enemy abroad to contend with, she raised her standard, perhaps in despair, and we trembled for ourselves. It could not be denied that the sole object of England had been to render Ireland a safe position.

position. We had been stewards over Ireland for this long period of time. He repeated, that we should one day have to give an account of our stewardship—a black account it would be, but it must be forthcoming. What had we done for the country which we were bound to aid and to protect? In our hands her population seemed a curse to her rather than a blessing. were a wretched, suffering, degraded race-without motive for exertion -starving in the midst of plenty. But, wretched as they were, they would not be content to remain. They now demanded justice. They called the attention of the houseand they were ready to prove the grievance; in fact, they had proved it already—to the scandalous and enequal administration of their laws. In England justice was delayed; but, thank Heaven, it could never be sold. In Ireland it was sold to the rich, refused to the poor, and delayed to all parties. It was in vain to disguise the fact, it was in vain to shun disclosure of the truth. We stood, as regarded Ireland, upon the brink of a precipice. Things could not remain as they were: they must either get better or get worse. He hoped, he trusted, that such an interval might yet be granted, as would allow time for measures—and they must be sweeping ones—of reformation; but if that interval was neglected, fearful consequences would ensue. He might be wrong in this prediction: if he was wrong, he did not stand alone. He was backed in what he said by the spirit of the wiscat laws, by the opinions of the most famous men of former ages; if he erred, he erred in company with the best judgments of our own time, he erred with the common

sence of the whole world, with the very decrees of Providence, to support him. We were driving 6,000,000 of people to madness to despuir. What results were iensonably to be expected from such blind obstinacy and injustice? It would not do for honourable gentlemen to meet this case with their old flimsy defences and evasions. Excuse after excuse we had had for refusing to do justice to Ireland: but the old excuses would not dothey would even apply no longer, At one period, we could not listen to the Catholies from an apprehension of Buonaparte; at another period, the question was abandoned for fear of breaking down a very strong administration; on a third occasion, the claimants were met with "the scruples of the monarch." Buonaparte had since died upon the rock of St. Helena, under solitary confinement and unnecessary torture. The monarch, too, was gone to his account; there were no scruples in the present King's breast which weighed against the interests of Ireland. Two objections therefore to the claims of the Catholies were, by the mere lapse of time, completely got rid of; and, for the third—the danger of breaking down a strong administration,-it would be admitted that we ran very little hazard, just now, of doing any thing of that kind. To attempt any course with Ireland short of a complete redress of grievances, would be a mockery of the evils under which she was suffering: but the greatest mockery of allthe most intolerable insult - the course of peculiar exasperationagainst which he cautioned the bonse, was the undertaking to curethe distress under which she laboured,

boured, by any thing in the shape of new penal enactments. It was in these enactments alone that we had so far shown our liberality to She had received penal laws from the hands of England. almost as plentifully as she had received blessings and advantages from the bands of Providence. What had these laws done? Checked her turbulence, but not stiffed it. The grievance remaining perpetual, the complaint could only be We might load her postponed. with chains; but in doing so, we should not better her condition: by coercion, we might goad her on to fury, but by coercion we should never break her spirit. If the government was desirous to restore tranquillity to Ireland, it must learn to prefer the hearts of the Irish people to the applause of the Orange-lodges. The warm-hearted disposition of that people---their desire for the maintenance of cordiality and good feeling-had been sufficiently evinced during his Majesty's late visit to Ireland; what would not be the reception which they would give to their representatives for benefits (not bare promises) actually conferred? But he was afraid to trust himself with the idea of a prospect which he feared it would never be his fortune in reality to behold; and believed that he must come back to his sad original demand—those rights of common justice, that equal administration of laws, from which Ireland was the only portion of Great Britain that was excluded. To do wrong to their subjects in some instances, at least, was the common frailty of governments. To deny the wrong upon complaint being tendered, was not uncommon; but to deny the fact, and

therefore to refuse justice, and upon a re-assertion of the matter of complaint to say-" I deny the facts; I refuse redress; I know that you offer to prove them, but I did not do the wrong, and will not consent to any inquiry"—what was this but adding to injury and violence, mockery and insult? He had done his duty-he had released himself from his share of the responsibility as to the sufferings of Ireland. the inquiry which he had asked for should be refused, he should have most deeply to deplore it. But the satisfaction would remain to him that he urged the house to their duty, and had left no arguments which he thought available, to induce them to the adoption of those measures, without which, on his conscience, he believed that there could be neither peace for Ireland, nor safety for the empire. -He moved. "That the petition of the Irish Roman Catholics, presented to the house, be referred to the Grand Commission on Courts of Justice in Ireland.

Mr. Goulburn spoke next, and alleged grounds for refusing the inquiry—he believed the petition to be adverse to the feelings, of the majority in Ireland: he defended the magistracy.

Sir H. Parnell supported the petition, Colonel Barry opposed it; Mr. C. H. Hutchinson believed the petition to be founded in truth, but opposed the inquiry. It was also opposed by Mr. Daly, Mr. Abercromby, Mr. R. Martin, and Mr. Peel; and supported by Mr. V. Fitzgerald: after which the house divided—For the motion, 59—Against it, 139.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the house adjourned.

House

House of Lords, June 27.—
The Royal assent was given by commission to the following bills:
—The barilla duties, registry of vessels, brimstone duties, Scotch linen, recognizances, Irish commercial credit, Irish law offices' compensation, Irish grand jury presentments, Irish joint tenancy, and several private bills. The Commissioners were the Lord Chancellor, the Earl of Shaftesbury, and Earl Bathurst.

Lord Dacre presented a petition from the inhabitants of Middlesex and Surrey, praying the appointment of a committee, before which evidence might be given of the best mode of letting small quantities of land to labourers, as a means of bettering the condition of the poor. His lord-ship now moved that the petition be read, and intimated his intention at some future period of making a specific motion on the subject.

The Earl of Liverpool presented a message from his Majesty, recommending the extension of the pension granted to the late Earl of St. Vincent, to the present Viscount St. Vincent.

On the motion of the Earl of Liverpool, the message was ordered to be taken into consideration on Monday next.

The Earl of Liverpool moved, on account of the absence of a noble friend of his, who was desirous of being present at the discussion of the beer bill, that it should be postponed to Tuesday next.

The Marquis of Lansdown was desirous of making one observation respecting a measure which would affect the beer business in Ireland. He saw by the votes, that a mea-

sure was in progress in the other house of parliament, the avowed effect of which was intended to be to make legally distilled spirits in Ireland much cheaper. To that he had no objection; but the brewers of that country apprehended the effect would be to diminish the consumption of beer. It would be a great misfortune if such effect did ensue, not only to the brewers, but with a view to the morals of the country; and it would be well worthy of the noble earl's attention to endeavour to prevent it by diminishing the malt duties; and, by that means, increasing the consumption of beer.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, June 27.— The Speuker was summoned by the Deputy Usher of the Black Rod, to attend the Lords Commissioners in the House of Lords, to hear the Royal assent given to several public and private bills, (for which see Lords.)

Mr. Hobhouse presented a petition from a person of the name of John Jones, of Water-lane, Fleet-street, complaining of the manner in which special juries are now struck by the Master of the Crown-office.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer brought down a message from the King, recommending the house to take into its consideration the propriety of extending to the present Viscount St. Vincent the pension and annuity which had been granted to the late Earl St. Vincent.

After the message had been read.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved that it be taken into consideration on Monday next.—Agreed

Mr. Evans presented a petition against slavery from Inverkeithing.

Mr.

Mr. F. Palmer presented two petitions, one from the inhabitants of Reading, and another from those of Waltham, praying for the establishment of a free trade in beer.

Mr. Rumbold presented a petition from the shipowners of Yarmouth against the reciprocity of

duties' bill.

Mr. C. W. Wyan then moved that the order of the day be now read, for the house resolving itself into a committee of the whole house on the East India half-pay bill.

Sir C. Burrell moved as an amendment, that the order of the day be read for the house going into a committee on the poor laws'

amendment bill.

The amendment being seconded, and neither party showing an inclination to give way, the house divided, when there appeared—For the amendment, 50—Against it, 32.

The poor laws' amendment bill was then committed. The report was brought up, and ordered to be taken into consideration this day three months. The bill, with amendments, to be printed.

The poor laws' amendment bill stood second, and the East India half-pay bill sixteenth, on the or-

ders of the day.

Mr. Brougham asked leave to trespass for a few moments on the attention of the house. It would be in the recollection of many members, that he had last night presented a petition from a Mr. George Rowan, which contained a serious charge against an honourable member of that house. He had stated upon that occasion that he had no knowledge either of the party who signed the petition, or of the charges which that peti-

tion contained. He had, therefore, upon the suggestion of the President of the Board of Control, after hearing the positive denial given to the accusation by the party whom it implicated, consented to withdraw the petition. He was now bound to state that the petitioner having referred him for information to an hon, member of the house, he had made the required reference, and the result of it had been to make the charges in question assume a much graver interest than he had originally attached to them. He felt that he should, as a public servant, desert his duty to the public, if he did not in consequence proceed farther The honourable in this matter. member to whom he had referred for information, had written to him in the following terms:-" I know Mr. G. Rowan; he is a relative of mine. I never heard any thing against him except the charges on which he was dismissed from his situation; and whatever was the merit of the charges against him, there can be no doubt that they were prosecuted from the most base and treacherous motives. He is a clever and at the same He (Mr. time a cautious man." Brougham) was not at liberty to mention the name of his informant, and he therefore declined giving Indeed it was not necessary for him to give it, since his informant said nothing against the honourable member who was charged, but only did that which he was bound in justice to donamely, speak to the ability, and more particularly to the caution, of Mr. G. Rowan. He now thought it necessary to state, that he should either take another opportunity of presenting

presenting Mr. Rowan's petition, or else ground some future proceeding on it. He hoped that, in such a situation, the house would allow him a day or two to consider of the line of conduct which he ought to pursue upon this occasion.

Mr. Goulburn moved the order of the day for the farther consideration of the report on the Irish

tithes' commutation bill.

Mr. Kennedy wished that the third reading of the Scotch jury bill should be allowed precedence.

Mr. Goulburn objected to this course, which was supported by Mr. Denman.

The house went in committee on the Irish tithes' commutation bill, the report having been recommitted.

Mr. Goulburn explained some amendments which he had introduced since the last stage.

Mr. V. Fitzgerald, at some length, expressed his decided opposition to thom.

On the clause empowering the commissioners to fix the composition at not more than one-third of the annual value,

Mr. Calcraft objected to this clause, and suggested that it should be limited to one-fifth instead of one-third.

Mr. Goulburn said that the limitation to one-third had been duly considered, and was thought to be adapted to the justice of the case; but if it should appear to the committee that one-fifth was a more suitable proposition, he had no wish to press the other amount.

After a conversation of considerable length, the clause, as amended, was agreed to.

Some conversation then ensued, in which Sir H. Parnell, Mr. Goubburn, Mr. V. Fitzgerald, Colonel

Barry, Mr. Wetherell, Sir J. Newport, Mr. J. Smith, Mr. Peel, Mr. S. Rice, and Mr. Monck participated, relative to a variety of verbal alterations, which were agreed to.

The house resumed, the Chairman reported progress, and the report was ordered to be received ou Tuesday next.

Mr. Caming moved that the house at its rising do adjourn to Monday.—Ordered.

Mr. C. Wynn moved that the house should resolve itself into a committee on the East India halfpay bill.

Mr. Daly rose for the purpose of ascertaining explicitly when the motion relative to the conduct of a high legal character in Ireland was likely to come on? The right hon, gent, would forgive him for venturing to put this question before the house went into committee, seeing that it was highly expedient, and but just, that no unnecessary delay whatever should be allowed to intervene, where an inquiry of so serious a nature was pending still over the head of an individual.

Mr. Rice was satisfied, that no one could impute the delay which: certainly had arisen in the bringing forward this matter, to him # for he appealed to most of the how nourable members who heard him. whether it had not gone over from day to day, without being brought to a final issue; and whether he himself had not been in his place: every evening, anxiously offering himself to the house, and perfectly ready to enter upon the question, whenever the house might feel disposed to entertain the business. His honourable friend (Mr. Daly) could not mean to impute, therefore, those continued postponements to

him.

him. He was most anxious that the house would fix some specific day, on which it should be clearly understood that the discussion was to come on.

Mr. Daly, in explanation, bore testimony to the anxiety which his honourable friend had manifested to bring the subject on; and he now rose only for the purpose of affording hon. gentlemen an opportunity of knowing when to ex-

pect the debate.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, upon looking to the order-book, found that for Wednesday next only two motions were put down -neither of which could occupy any considerable portion of time. and one of which he doubted not that an honourable friend of his would willingly postpone in favour of the committee on the conduct of the Chief Baron. His (the Chancellor of the Exchequer's) own notice about the budget also stood for Wednesday; but that would occupy very little or no time at all. On the next day, however, Thursday,) there was but one notice of a motion entered—that of an honourable and learned gentleman about our foreign policy. it was understood, however, that that motion would not be pressed this session, the hon gent. (Mr. Rice) had, perhaps, better fix his committee for Thursday.

Mr. Rice assented.

The house then resolved itself into a committee on the East India

half-pay bill.

Mr. Wynn stated that one of the objects of the bill was to pay the salaries and half-pay of officers, civil and military, and of the Judges of India, in rupees, instead of pounds sterling as heretofore. The house resumed, and the report was ordered to be received on

Monday.

Mr. J<sub>4</sub> Smith moved the second reading of the law merchant bill. The object of it was, he observed, to give to factors the power of raising money on goods consigned to them under particular circumstances. Great inconvenience and much serious injury had arisen to many individuals from the want of fixed regulations on this subject.

Mr. Huskisson said he would not object to the second reading; but he trusted that while the interest of one party concerned in this important subject was attended to, that of the others might not be compromised or lost sight

of.

The Attorney-General would not oppose the motion; but he doubted whether there was sufficient time, at this late period of the session, for going on with so important a measure.

The Lord Mayor expressed a hope that it was not too late to de-

vise some remedy.

The bill was then read a second time, and ordered to be committed on Tuesday next.

Mr. Sergeant Onslow moved the farther consideration of the report

of the usury bill.

A Member moved that the report be received that day three months.

The Lord Mayor seconded the

amendment.

Mr. Goock, Mr. F. Palmer, Mr. Calcraft, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, opposed the bill.

Mr. J. Smith, Mr. Ricardo, and Sir J. Sebright supported it.

Mr. Sergeant Onslow replied.

In

The house divided — For the amendment, 26—For the bill, 21.

The other orders of the day were disposed of, and the house ad-

iourned.

House of Lords, June 30.—The Earl of Liverpool moved the second reading of the several bills for amending the criminal laws, which had been brought up from the House of Commons. His lordship, at the same time, explained the nature of each bill; and they were all read a second time, and ordered to be committed to-morrow.

Mr. Lennard brought up from the House of Commons the felo de

se abolition bill.

Mr. P. Moore brought up the Southwark Court of Requests bill from the House of Commons.

The house having resolved itself into a committee for legalising

marriages in Russia,

Lord Holland expressed his wish that the Bill had extended to the marriages of British subjects by the chaplains of all our ambassaders abroad.

The Lord Chancellor had been fifty years in the profession, and had never heard any lawyer express a doubt on that subject, nor

had his lordship any.

An address was voted to his Majesty on the pension of the late Lord St. Vincent being settled on his successor, of which some doubt had arisen from the union with Ireland.

On the motion of Lord Liverpool "the bill for appointing commissioners to enquire into the state of appeals from Scotland," was read a second time, and ordered to be committed.

On the noble lord moving that the house sit five days in a week to hear such causes, a debate arose, in which it was opposed by Lords Grosvenor, Aberdeen, &c. and was adjourned till next day.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, June 80.— Mr. S. Wortley moved the order of the day on the sale of game bill, for the purpose of postponing it till next session.—Agreed to.

Mr. Hume presented a petition from a person named Mitford, praying an inquiry into the state of private madhouses, which was supported by Mr. Hobhouse.

Mr. Brougham defended the conduct of Dr. Warburton, and thought such petitions must be received with many grains of al-

lowance.

Mr. G. Bennet knew many of the facts stated by that writer to be false, and hoped he would be prosecuted: he wished, however, for inquiry.

Petition ordered to be printed.

Several petitions were presented against slavery—against the assessed taxes—and for a repeal of the combination laws.

Mr. Kennedy moved the third reading of the Scotch juries bill, which was opposed by Lord Binning, &c.

After some debate the house divided—For the bill, 56—Against

it, 21.

The house then went into a committee on the Irish distilleries bill.

To report to-morrow.

On the motion of Lord Nugent, the house went into a committee on the English Catholics elective franchise bill.

Messrs. Banks jun. and sen. opposed it, as leading the way to admit Catholics into parliament.

Mr. Peel could not allow this, and saw no objection to the measure.

Mr. Butterworth opposed it warmly

warmly-denied that the Catholics were a whit more liberal than formerly, and felt much alarm from the countenance given to Jesuits in

these kingdoms.

protested against Mr. Hume intolerant language, thought the Protestant Jesuits much more to be dreaded—he meant the Mathodists-the greatest enemies of the church of England.

Mr. Butterworth, in return, accused Mr. Hume as the abettor of

Carlile's opinions.

Mr. Hume denied this with great warmth, and amidst loud cries of order.

The Chairman (Mr. Brogden) interfered, and order being restored, the house divided-For the bill, 89 —Against it, 30,

Mr. Goulburn moved the third reading of the Irish insurrection After some opposition from Mr. G. Bennet and Mr. Denman, the bill was read a third time and

passed.

The Irish unlawful oaths bill went through the committee without alterations.

The King's message on Lord St. Vincent's pension was agreed to, and the house adjourned.

## CHAPTER V.

Appellate Jurisdiction.—Supply.—Prosecution for Infidel Publications.— The Budget.—Baron O'Grady.—East India Trade Bill.—Slave Trade Consolidation Bill.—Scotch Entails.—Irish Insurrection Act.—Marriage Act Amendment.—New South Wales.—Land Tax.—English Catholics .- Jurors Qualification .- Court of Chancery .- Scottish Law Commission .- Illegal Ouths (Ireland) Bill, -Slaves at Honduras.-Churches in Ireland .- Silk Manufactures .- Highlands Church Bill .-Sundry Petitions, &c.—Prorogation of Parliament.

IJOUSE of Lords, July 1.—Mr. Brogden, accompanied by several members of the House of Commons, brought up the Scotch commissary courts, Highland churches, Irish insurrection, and Scotch jury courts bills, which were read the first time.

On the motion of the Earl of Liverpool, the five bills for modifying the criminal laws went through committees, and were reported without amendments.

Petitions were presented against

the London Bridge bill and the beer bill.

On the motion of the Earl of Liverpool, the beer bill then went through a committee pro forma, and the third reading was fixed for -Friday next.

The second reading of the Irish insurrection act was fixed for Friday next, on the understanding that no discussion should take place on that day.

The appellate jurisdiction bill went through a committee.—Report

port ordered to be received to-

The order of the day was then read for the house resuming the debate on the resolutions relating to the alteration of the standing order of the house, fixing five days instead of three days in the week for hearing appeals.

The first and second resolutions were put, and agreed to without a

division.

On the third resolution, which went to make the attendance of peers compulsory on the hearing of appeals,

Their lordships divided - Content, 27-Not Content, 11.-Ad-

journed.

House of Commons, July 1.—On the motion of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the report of the committee appointed to consider his majesty's message relative to the pension of Viscount St. Vincent was received; and a bill was ordered to be prepared accordingly.

Petitions were presented against the reciprocity duties bill—for re-

form in parliament.

Mr. Lushington moved that a sum, not exceeding 40,000l. should be granted for the new buildings to be erected at the British Museum for the reception of the Royal library.

Mr. Bankes wished to add, as an amendment, "and that this aum be granted without fee or de-

duction."

Mr. Croker rose to move an amendment to the words of the resolution, "That it is expedient, before any buildings are undertaken, that a general design and estimate should be prepared under the direction, and subject to the approval, of the Lords of the Treasury."

Mr. Bankes's amendment was then agreed to without a division. For the amendment, 80—For the original motion, 54.

Upon the resolution for granting 9,230*l*. for building churches, and for purchasing glebe for the clergy

in Ireland.

Mr. Hume said he was compelled to divide the house upon this item, for which he thought no sufficient reason had been given by ministers.

The gallery was again cleared for a division. For the resolution, 65—Against it, 35.

The other resolutions were car-

ried without a division.

Mr. Brougham again presented the petition of George Rowan, after having inquired into his character, and having found that he was a man of veracity and good reputation, and one whose statement, prima facie, he was bound to consider as entitled to credit. But here he must observe, that, on presenting a petition, a member could not be held answerable for the accuracy of its contents. If he believed the party to be entitled to credit, he was bound to present the peti-tion, and could be held answerable, in the same manner as if he stood up in his place in parliament and made the same assertions on his own authority. He had done all that he could effect, by cautioning the petitioner that in making a charge against any member he was bound to make good his charge, or he must prepare to suffer the punishment which awaited a breach of privi-He moved that the petition be brought up; and upon the next motion for laying it upon the table there would be opportunity enough for

1

for particularly discussing the contents of it.

Mr. C. W. Wynn opposed the

bringing up this petition.

Mr. Brougham hoped, although in point of strictness he was not entitled at this moment to reply, that he should be allowed to add a He was fully aware of few words. the difficulty of turning the course of the criminal law into this house. But there was another and not a less important difficulty—that the house of commons should avoid the imputation of being too slow in receiving charges against its own members. Here was a distinct charge of the abuse of patronage by a member of a county. In the case of Lord Melville, he had been censured by the house for an indictable offence, and the house had afterwards directed his prosecution by the Attorney-General, although that mode of proceeding was afterwards abandoned for that of impeachment. His right honourable friend would say that this was in his office of public treasurer; but there was another case -that of Thomas Ridge, a member of the house in 1710, who was a brewer and a contractor with the victualling board; but not, therefore, a public functuary. He contracted to furnish 8000 tuns of beer, and delivered only 3000, having received payment for the whole. house examined into the charges, expelled the member, and followed that proceeding by an order to the Attorney-General to prosecute; so that he was sent upon his trial, not only with the vote of the house about his neck, but under the additional weight of their sentence of expulsion. Of so little importance did he (Mr. Brougham) consider this, that he thought a man could not go into court with a better chance in his favour than under a prosecution by the Attorney-General, in pursuance of a vote of the house. He thought, notwithstanding the difficulty which he admitted, the house could not refuse to receive the petition. When a day should be fixed for its future discussion, the Attorney-General might be directed to prosecute, and thus the difficulty would be got rid of.

Mr. Wynn said that the house, being the guardians of the public purse, could not discharge that duty without proceeding as they had done in the case quoted by his

hon. and learned friend.

Mr. Maurice Fitzgerald rose with great pain to speak of the conduct of an honourable gentleman who was his own colleague. He was compelled to do so in consequence of an allusion which had been made to him in the speech of his hon, and learned friend on Friday last, and which had been made public in a paper distinguished by the fairness and ability of its reports. He (Mr. Fitzgerald) had been applied to by his hon, and learned friend as to the character of the petitioner; and feeling that he had no right to refuse the information required, he communicated it in the following terms, which his honourable friend had read in the house:—" I know Mr. G. Rowan; he is a relative of I never heard any thing against him, except the charges on which he was dismissed from his situation; and whatever was the merit of the charges against him, there can be no doubt that they were prosecuted from the most base and treacherous motive. is a clever and at the same time a cautious

cautious man." He added, however, that as there had been election jealousies between his friends and those of Colonel Crosbie, he wished to avoid any interference in the business, and particularly requested that his name might not be mentioned. Whether this did or did not preclude his honourable and learned friend from mentioning his name, the house would decide: but he must now state it was his intention that he should not do so. Not that he had wished to conceal his having given the petitioner's character, but he wished not to lend any corroboration to the charges which had been made. In this spirit he wrote the letter which had been quoted, and in this spirit be wished it to be carried into the house. He was satisfied that his explanation would be sufficient to gentlemen who heard him, on whatever side of the house they sat; because he knew that personal feelings in matters so delicate as that of which he was speaking were held by them paramount to all political inclinations; but it had been hinted to him that it might elsewhere be believed that the petition had been caused by him. To those who knew him it was enough to say that such an imputation must be, of its nature, false. If he had thought it necessary to make any charge, he should not have disgraced himself by adopting any indirect means. So far from encouraging the charge, he had abs-Il correspondence with he had -3r, mei and he er, bethe esided conment,

and he wrote confidentially to a friend of his, Colonel Church, desiring he would have it understood that he was no party to the affair. He concluded by saying that the charge had given greater pain to no individual (his hon. colleague excepted) than himself. He trusted that he had now removed the impression which the partial quotation of his letter had occasioned.

Mr. Brougham explained.

Colonel Crosbie expressed himself perfectly satisfied with the explanation of his honourable colleague, which had removed the impression caused by reading the speech of the hon, and learned

gentleman.

Mr. M. Fitzgerald said, that the phrase "base and treacherous," applied only to the means by which the charges had been preferred, and were adopted from a former petition which had been presented in 1819. They referred to a person who had formerly been employed in the petitioner's service, not to his hon. colleague, not to the persons by whom the petitioner was tried, and least of all to the Government by which he had been dismissed.

After a few words from Mr. Peel, the petition was brought up and read.

On the motion that it be laid on the table.

Mr. Wynn opposed it, and recommended that the petition should be withdrawn, and placed in the hands of the proper officers.

The house then divided, and the numbers for laying the petition on the table were—Ayes, 26—Noes, 51. The petition was therefore rejected.

Mr. Brougham said, if the petitioner should askhis advice as to B his his future proceedings, he should recommend him not to take one further step, nor to spend one farthing of his money in attempting

to gain redress.

Mr. Hume presented a petition against prosecution for the publication of infidel works, signed by 2047 persons, of whom 98 were ministers. He proposed to follow up the reading of the petition with a motion which he should submit from a sense of duty, and which, if adopted by the house, as he anxiously hoped it would be, would tend to check the mischief which had been caused by recent proceedings.

On the motion that the petition

be printed,

Mr. Butterworth asked by how many ministers of the Church of England this petition was signed, and of what class of dissenters the other petitioners consisted.

Mr. Hume replied, that it was signed by dissenters of all classes, and the names of the ministers

were in a separate column.

Mr. W. Smith could not see the pertinency of the honourable member's question. The petition was however signed, he could assure him, by persons whose religious opinions were as perfectly opposed to each other as possible.

The petition was ordered to be

printed.

Mr. Hume then rose for the purpose of making the motion of which he had given notice. His object was to obtain the admission of that principle which he had always thought to be part of the law of this country—namely, that every individual was entitled to freedom of discussion on all subjects, whether controversial or religious. The hon member then went at some length into the subject, and

quoted the opinions in his favour, of Tillotson, Lowth, Warburton, Lardner, Campbell, Chillingworth; and others. The hon member concluded by moving "That it is the opinion of this house that free discussion has been attended with more benefit than injury to the community, and it is unjust and inexpedient to expose any person to legal penalties on account of the expression of opinions on matters of religion."

After some observations from Mr. Wilberforce, Mr. Ricardo, Mr. Peel, and some other mem-

bers,

Mr. Hume said he would not press the house to a division on the resolutions, because, if they should be affirmed, there would not be time to pass a bill founded upon them during the present session.

The Speaker then put the question on the resolutions, which were negatived without a division.

Mr. Grattan moved that as humble address be presented to his Majesty, praying that he would direct a prosecution to be commenced by the Attorney-General against the corporation of Dublin for mismanagement of the pipe, water, and metal main accounts.

Mr. S. Rice seconded the motion, which was opposed by Mr. Dawson and Mr. Goulburn.

After a few words from Mr. S. Rice, in explanation, Mr. Grutten consented to withdraw his motion, and it was accordingly withdrawn. The report on the Irish tithe composition bill was brought up, and the amendments read and agreed to. On the motion of Mr. J. Smith, the law merchant bill went through a committee.

The house resumed, and the report was ordered to be taken into

consideration

consideration on Thursday next.—Adjourned.

House of Lords, July 2.—A message from the Commons brought up the London-dock Company's bill, which was read the first time.

The Highland roads' bill was read the third time, and passed.

Earl Grossenor presented a petition from certain architects, complaining of a particular clause in the London-bridge bill.

On the metion of Lord Melville, a clause was introduced into the London-bridge bill, modifying that part of the bill which gives a power to the Lords of the Treasury to alter the plans.

The Eart of Liverpool said, that it never was the intention that the Lords of the Treasury should make alterations; but only that they should have a general official supervision.

The clause was agreed to, and the bill read the third time, and passed.

The bills for altering the criminal laws were forwarded one stage, with the exception of the larcenies' bill, which, on the motion of the Lord Chanceller, was postponed to Priday.

On the bringing up of the report on the Scotch commissioners of inquiry bill,

Earl Groscenor proposed to insert a clause to empower the commissioners to inquire into the nature of the office of Lord Justice General of Scotland, with a view to its being abolished.

The Eart of Liverpool opposed the clause, on the ground of the important duties already devolved upon the commissioners, and the limited time in which the report must be made.

After a few words from the Earl

of Aberdeen, Earl Grosvenor consented to withdraw his motion.

The report was then agreed to.

Adjourned.

House of Commons, July 2.— Mr. Wilberforce presented a petition from certain persons at Pershore, in Worcestershire, praying for the abolition of slavery.

Several petitions were presented from other places to the same effect.

Mr. F. Buston moved; that there should be laid before the house an account of all medicines furnished by the Apothecaries' Company to the army and navy within the last five years; with the correspondence between the Admiralty and the Apothecaries' Company as to prices.

Mr. A. Robarts presented a petition from the masters, mates, and seamen of merchant vessels in the port of London, against the reciprocity of duties bill.

Mr. T. Wilson presented a similar petition from the ship-owners of London, who complained of the manner in which the evidence was taken in the committee on the bift.

Mr. Thompson presented a petition from merchants of the city of London, complaining of the high duties upon foreign seed.—Laid upon the table.

Sir J. Macintosa presented a petition from John Clark, late surgeon of the Berkshire militia, complaining of the regulations with respect to the pay of retired militia surgeons.—Ordered to be printed.

He then presented another petition of a more public nature, from a merchant, an inhabitant of New South Wales, complaining of a bill now before the house, which, as the petitioner alleged, went to deprive that colony of its most important 2 B 2

portant privileges. By the 4th, 6th, and 44th clauses, it was intended to take away the right of trial by jury, and substitute a sort of court-martial, which was most fallaciously called a jury. third clause gave the Governor a power of arbitrarily sending any one who might be objectionable to him to Great Britain, away from his family, friends, and business, upon his own bare surmise, or the information of an unknown accuser, without the pretence of trial. The petitioner prayed to be heard by counsel against the bill, and he (Sir J. Macintosh) only wished to know, before going farther into his statement, whether or not there would be any objection to granting that prayer of the petition. cause, if the honourable gentlemen opposite opposed that part of the petition, it would be incumbent upon him to go more at large into the merits of the case than he felt inclined otherwise to do.

Mr. Wilmot said, to save time, he would state that there were the strongest objections to allowing the

prayer of the petition.

Sir J. Macintosh said, that being the case, he was bound to awaken the attention of the house to the interests of a colony of growing importance to this country, whose present rights and future destinies were to be most materially affected by the bill in question. There was a larger European population in New South Wales than (by the computation of Mr. Bryan Edwards) was now contained in the whole of Asia. It was the solemn duty of Parliament to take care that the institution of a settlement likely to attain to a high degree of political consequence should not be endangered by associating tyranny

and despotism with their infancy. Let them remember what had been the fate of America. By imparting early the free institutions of this country to them, the states of America had risen to a degree of power which, for the rapidity of its growth and its greatness, was unequalled among mankind. Let it not be pretended that it was not the intention of this government to give trial by jury to New South The contrary expectation had been held out by Governor Hunter, and after him by Governors Bligh, Bent, and Macquarrie. Neither could it be pretended that the settlement could not furnish a sufficient number of qualified persons from among whom juries could be formed. There were 3000 landbolders settled there, having between fifty and sixty acres each. The new regulation went to compose the juries of a majority of naval and military officers from those who might happen to be on the station. If the exercise of arbitrary power were to be dreaded any where, it would be in a settlement like that of New South Wales, which was too remote for the effectual interference of the parental government. was his intention, after the petition was disposed of, to move that counsel be heard in support of the petition on the next day of discussion upon the bill, which he believed would be on Friday next.

After some observations from several members, the house divided:
—For the motion, 47—Against it, 60.

Mr. Maberly presented a petition. from Thomas Hazard, of Queen-street, Edgeware-road, complaining that he was on the 3d of March.

March, 1820, arrested on a false charge of high treason, and committed to Tothill-fields Bridewell, but not prosecuted. The petitioner stated that he had sustained various losses to the amount of 2601., and prayed a recompense. — On the petition being brought up and read,

The Speaker asked whether it had the concurrence of the ministers of the crown? He observed, that the petition asked distinctly for a sum of money, and could not therefore be received, pursuant to the forms of Parliament, without such concurrence.

Mr. Maberly replied, that he had not the consent of the ministers; and after a short conversation between the Speaker and Mr. Hume, Mr. Maberly withdrew the petition.

A message was received from the Lords, stating that their lordships had passed several bills.

Mr. F. Buxton rose for the purpose of moving, that the papers on the table relative to the capture of the ship Requis, should be referred to a special committee; at the same time he proposed, with the permission of the house, to lay before it a statement of the claims of Mr. Ogilvie, by whom the vessel had actually been taken. In the year 1814 the British army, under Lord Beresford, who was then second in command to Lord Dalhousie, became masters of Bordeaux. Lord Beresford directed Mr. Ogilvie, in the execution of his duty as a commissariat officer, to proceed to take possession of the ships in the river, and to secure them. That gentleman proceeded to execute this commission, and had discharged it, when the clerk suggested to him that vessels sometimes lay lower down the river; upon which, Mr. Ogilvie, having engaged ten French royalist sailors, directed them to row down the When he had proceeded river. about two miles, he discovered, on turning the angle of the stream, two vessels lying near the shore, one of which was a ship of war, and the other a merchantman. The sailors immediately recognised the first to be an American privateer, which had been very successful against the English merchant vessels, and the other to be an English merchantman. Mr. Ogilvie immediately retired behind a neck of land; and here he (Mr. Buxton) was ready to admit, that, but for some further information which Mr. Ogilvie received, he would not have attempted the cap-But just at this moment he ture. saw a boat put off from the shore, which he took, and found in it the gunner of the Require, from whom he gathered that the ship's force had been very much diminished, and that it did not then amount to more than 15 or 20 persons attempt to take the vessel, even under these circumstances, was extremely hazardous, but Mr. Ogilvie nevertheless resolved upon it. promised a considerable reward to the men, and taking the helm himself, he proceeded to the vessel. His approach was not perceived: he sprung on deck, and called out to the crew to surrender. supposing they were attacked by considerable force, ran below. and shortly after the captain came up unarmed, and surrendered to Mr. Ogilvie, who ordered the crew into his own boat, and in a quarter of an hour the vessel was in his possession; one wounded sailor and the captain being alone left on board the Requin. Mr. Ogilvie then directed his clerk to proceed with

the boat and the prisoners to Bordeaux, and to return with a sufficient force to carry up the vessel. Mr. Ogilvie was then left alone on board the Requin, where he remained for four hours, until the boat returned with some soldiers, into whose possession he put the ship, and went back to Bordeaux, During this time, he was lying within one hundred yards of the shore, and one hundred and fifty yards of the village of Lomont, where a detachment of the enemy's cavalry was stationed; and if they had had the slightest intimation of the affair, nothing could have been more easy than to recapture the ship. On his return to Bordeaux, Gen. Ponsonby examined the American officer, who stated that he was at dinner, and that his men were employed in lightening the vessel; that he had captured the English merchantman, and lintended to put to sea at the next tide. This was the outline of the case; but if the house required any confirmation of it, he was able to afford the fullest, in the testimonials which had been borne to his character by officers of the highest respectability. hon, member then read testimonials from Col. Ponsonby, Sir R. Arbuthnot, and Major Eckersly, all of whom spoke of the success of the capture as to be attributed entirely to the courage and conduct of Mr. Ogilvie. If it should be said that this capture had been entirely superfluous, because the river was in our possession, and the ship must therefore have been taken the next day, he had to oppose to this, the fact that twenty sail of merchantmen did actually escape after the capture. There were two views in which this might he considered—either as a droit of the

Admiralty, or as booty. In the first case, it was usual for the Admiralty to award a partion, from half to nine-tenths of the value, to the captors; in the other, it had been the practice in the army to divide the value among the captors, pursuant to the orders of the Duke of Wellington. The hen. member mentioned several stances of these customs. wished only that Mr. Ogilvie should be treated in the same manner as other officers had been; and on either of those points would be rest his case. He had no interest with him, but he was anxious that a gentleman who had risked his life in an enterprise in which he had succeeded, should receive the reward due to his exertions. concluded by moving that the napers be referred to a select committee, for the purpose of inquiring into the justice of that gentleman's claim.

Colonel King, in a speech which he stated to be the first he had delivered in parliament, seconded the motion, and bore testimony to the valuable services and good conduct of Mr. Ogilvie, with whom he had served during the Peninsular war. He ended by calling upon the house to do justice to his claims.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, in opposing the motion, had no wish to detract from Mr. Ogilvie's merit, either as commissary, or in the transaction now alluded to. The question for the house to decide was, whether, having captured the vessel, he was entitled to receive the proceeds. In the first place, when he proceeded in the execution of his duty to secure the vessels lying in the river, they had become the property of the British.

British. At that very time there were 12,000 British soldiers in Bordeaux: there were British vessels at the mouth of the Garonne. and it was quite clear, from his own account, that the Requin, so far from intending to fight, was skulking in shore, and trying to escape. Mr. Ogilvie did certainly take the vessel by a coup de main in a very meritorious way, but then the crew were terrified out of their wits, and the enterprise was not practically so hazardous as in the recital it might seem to be. But it was not upon this ground alone that his (the Chancellor of the Exchequer's) objection rested. Mr. Ogilvie was entitled, in right of his standing as a commissary, to receive the same proportion of prize-money as a major. The booty had been estimated, and among other things this same ship had been included, valued by Mr. Ogilvie and Major Eckersly, at 18,000/. The total amount of the booty was stated at 800,000l., of which Mr. Ogilvie had received his share. The right honourable gentleman then read extracts from letters of the Duke of Wellington, in which he bore testimony to Mr. Ogilvie's merits, but denied the justice of his claim in the present instance, and that it could be supported by his orders of the army. The right hon, gentleman said, that as he could not see any fair grounds for the claim, he must oppose the motion.

After a short conversation between Mr. Hume, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Colonel Davis,

Mr. F. Buxton replied, when the house divided on the motion, the numbers being—Ayes, 19—Noes, 40.

Mr. S. Rice urged the proceed-

ing with the inquiry into the conduct of the Chief Baron of the Exchequer in Ireland, on which he wished to move certain resolutions, which would take up little of the time of the house.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, if he consulted his private feelings, he could have no objection to postponing his statement of the budget; but as it was of great importance to the public interest, he thought it ought not to be preceded by any other business. As he should call for no vote but on the appropriation clause, he could not suppose it would occupy any great portion of time.

A conversation ensued on this subject, in which Mr. Hume, Mr. R. Smith, Mr. Rice, and Mr. Canning took part: after which the cries for the Chancellor of the Exchequer became loud, and he rose.

The Budget.—The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, that he felt that on every account it was incumbent on him to compress his observations into as narrow a compass as possible. He knew how much the house had been fatigued for many nights, by labours almost unprecedented, and which he must be allowed to have felt as heavily as any one; and it would be unpardonable in him if he did not do his best to abridge, on the present occasion, the trouble which they must undergo. He should, therefore, proceed with what was essential to the exposition of the statement he had to lay before them. As in the early part of the session be had explained the situation of the nation's finances, and measures which it was the duty of his Majesty's government to recommend, which measures had since been carried into effect, it

was not now necessary for him to recapitulate the observations he had made on that occasion. It was his duty then to state the aggregate of the revenue and of the expense; to lay before the house the votes for the supply which they would be called upon to furnish, and the measures which parliament should adopt for meeting that supply. He stated to the house, at the commencement of the session, that he believed the amount of the supply which parliament would be called upon to vote would be 16,600,000l. but he had now to inform the house that that sum would be exceeded by between 2 and 300,000l. He would explain how this excess had arisen. It had not arisen in the estimates for the army, navy, or ordnance, but under the head of miscellaneous estimates, and was occasioned by various items which did not enter into his calculation when he made his former The largest of these statement. items was one of 60,000l. for the stationery office, which was created in consequence of a new arrangement, which, in future, would conduce largely to economy in that department. It had been formerly the practice for each of the public departments to provide themselves with stationery, almost ad That system was now entirely altered, and the public offices were limited to particular descriptions of stationery, and to a certain amount. It was expected that by this arrangement the expense of supplying the public departments would be considerably Although the vote diminished. required under the head of stationery would appear to be increased, there would really be a diminution of expense to a considerable extent, because some departments used, by the old arrangement, to charge for it under the head of contingencies. The new arrangement would not come into full operation during the present year, because the military and naval departments had already been provided with stationery by the estimates. Various other items had occasioned the excess which he had before alluded One of these was the grant arising out of the present which his Majesty had made to the public of his library; another was the sum of 4000l. on account of Dunleary harbour, and another the vote of 15,000l. for assisting the emigration from the south of Ireland to Canada, &c. He was happy, however, to be able to state, that whilst there was such an excess beyond the calculation which he had made in the supplies. there was at the same time a more than corresponding increase in the ways and means to meet it. The total supplies voted on account of the army, navy, ordnance, and miscellaneous estimates, and the interest on exchequer bills for the present year, amounted to 16,976,743/. To meet this sum there were the annual malt-tax, 3,000,000*l*.; on account of the lottery, 200,000l; repayment by exchequer bill loan commissioners, 126,873l.; on account of the arrangement for the payment of the naval and military pensions, 4,800,000*l*.; to be paid by the East India Company on account of the half-pay of his Majesty's forces employed in India, 90,0001. He would trouble the house with a few observations respecting the last item of 90,000*l*. It had appeared to the government that it was fair

fair that the East India Company should take upon themselves some portion of the expense of the half-pay of the troops which were employed in India for their benefit. It was but justice to the Company to say that they at once acknowledged the justice of the claim. The question then was, what portion of the half-pay and pensions should the company discharge? It would have been unfair to have charged them with the whole of it, because many of the individuals composing the corps might have been wounded and entitled to compensation on that account before they proceeded to India. After some discussion, an arrangement was come to satisfactory to both parties, by which the East India Company undertook to pay annually the sum of 60,000l. on account of the half-pay and pensions. The usual vote for the support of the forces in India appeared in the army estimates of the present year, because the arrangement was not made until the supply had been Next year, however, that vote might be deducted in the same manner as votes on account of stores, and disposed of in any other manner. The Company had given this year 90,000l. instead of 60,000L, because it had been determined that the arrangement should take effect from the 1st of May, 1820. He would now proceed with his enumeration of the items composing the gross sum which was to meet the 16,976,743l. which had been voted for the estimates. The surplus of ways and means amounted to 469,047!. This surplus arose out of grants voted in former years, which government had not found it neces-There was next sary to call for.

an item of 8,700,000/. furnished by the surplus of the consolidated fund. It was a long time since the house had heard any thing said of a surplus of the consolidated fund. It was extremely gratifying to him, that he was the first person who had, for several years, been able to state that there was a surplus of the consolidated fund, and to a large amount. The circumstance of the surplus being so large-indeed of its existing at all-was to be attributed to the arrangement which parliament had sanctioned during the present session with respect to the sinking fund, the effect of which was to reduce the charge on the consolidated fund to precisely the amount of the sinking-fund. Adding together all the items of ways and means which he had stated, they would be found to amount to 17,385,9204; being a surplus of ways and means over the supplies of 409,177l. Of this surplus 244,150l. would be applied to the diminution of the unfunded debt. It was a very gratifying circumstance to have something in hand. He did not think it advisable to accommodate the receipts to the expenditure so nicely as to render the government liable to inconvenience in the event of any sudden and unexpected decrease of revenue taking place. He had made his estimate of the amount of the surplus of the consolidated fund upon the supposition that the assessed taxes, amounting to 2,200,000/... which had been repealed during the present session, would be lost to the revenue for the current year. That, however, would not be the case, because there were nearly three quarters of assessed taxes, due prior to the repeal. But as

for particularly discussing the contents of it.

Mr. C. W. Wynn opposed the

bringing up this petition.

Mr. Brougham hoped, although in point of strictness he was not entitled at this moment to reply, that he should be allowed to add a few words. He was fully aware of the difficulty of turning the course of the criminal law into this house. But there was another and not a less important difficulty—that the house of commons should avoid the imputation of being too slow in receiving charges against its own members. Here was a distinct charge of the abuse of patronage by a member of a county. In the case of Lord Melville, he had been censured by the house for an indictable offence, and the house had afterwards directed his prosecution by the Attorney-General, although that mode of proceeding was afterwards abandoned for that of impeachment. His right honourable friend would say that this was in his office of public treasurer; but there was another case -that of Thomas Ridge, a member of the house in 1710, who was a brewer and a contractor with the victualling board: but not, therefore, a public functuary. He contracted to furnish 8000 tuns of beer, and delivered only 3000, having received payment for the whole. house examined into the charges, expelled the member, and followed that proceeding by an order to the Attorney-General to prosecute; so that he was sent upon his trial, not only with the vote of the house about his neck, but under the additional weight of their sentence of expulsion. Of so little importance did he (Mr. Brougham) consider this, that he thought a man could

not go into court with a better chance in his favour than under a prosecution by the Attorney-General, in pursuance of a vote of the house. He thought, notwithstanding the difficulty which he admitted, the house could not refuse to receive the petition. When a day should be fixed for its future discussion, the Attorney-General might be directed to prosecute, and thus the difficulty would be got rid of.

Mr. Wynn said that the house, being the guardians of the public purse, could not discharge that duty without proceeding as they had done in the case quoted by his

hon. and learned friend.

Mr. Maurice Fifzgerald rose with great pain to speak of the conduct of an honourable gentleman who was his own colleague. He was compelled to do so in consequence of an allusion which had been made to him in the speech of his hon, and learned friend on Friday last, and which had been made public in a paper distinguished by the fairness and ability of its reports. He (Mr. Fitzgerald) had been applied to by his hon, and learned friend as to the character of the petitioner; and feeling that he had no right to refuse the information required, he communicated it in the following terms, which his honourable friend had read in the house :- "I know Mr. G. Rowan; he is a relative of mine. I never heard any thing against him, except the charges on which he was dismissed from his situation; and whatever was the merit of the charges against him, there can be no doubt that they were prosecuted from the most base and treacherous motive. is a clever and at the same time a cautious

cautious man." He added, however, that as there had been election jealousies between his friends and those of Colonel Crosbie, he wished to avoid any interference in the business, and particularly requested that his name might not be mentioned. Whether this did or did not preclude his honourable and-learned friend from mentioning his name, the house would decide; but he must now state it was his intention that he should not do so. Not that he had wished to conceal his having given the petitioner's character, but he wished not to lend any corroboration to the charges which had been made. In this spirit he wrote the letter which had been quoted, and in this spirit be wished it to be carried into the house. He was satisfied that his explanation would be sufficient to gentlemen who heard him, on whatever side of the house they sat; because he knew that personal feelings in matters so delicate as that of which he was speaking were held by them paramount to all political inclinations; but it had been hinted to him that it might elsewhere be believed that the petition had been caused by him. To those who knew him it was enough to say that such an imputation must be, of its nature, false. If he had thought it necessary to make any charge, he should not have disgraced himself by adopting any indirect means. So far from encouraging the charge, he had abstained from all correspondence with the petitioner, whom he had not seen for some years; and he had not replied to his letter, because he knew that in the county in which they both resided any correspondence would be constructed into an encouragement, tioner should askhis advice as to 1823.

and he wrote confidentially to a friend of his, Colonel Church, desiring he would have it understood that he was no party to the affair. He concluded by saying that the charge had given greater pain to no individual (his hon. colleague excepted) than himself. He trusted that he had now removed the impression which the partial quotation of his letter had occasioned.

*Mr. Brougham* explained.

Colonel Crosbie expressed himself perfectly satisfied with the explanation of his honourable colleague, which had removed the impression caused by reading the speech of the hon. and learned

gentleman.

Mr. M. Fitzgerald said, that the phrase "base and treacherous," applied only to the means by which the charges had been preferred, and were adopted from a former petition which had been presented in 1819. They referred to a person who had formerly been employed in the petitioner's service, not to his hon, colleague, not to the persons by whom the petitioner was tried, and least of all to the Government by which he had been dismissed.

After a few words from Mr. Peel. the petition was brought up and

On the motion that it be laid on the table.

Mr. Wynn opposed it, and recommended that the petition should be withdrawn, and placed in the bands of the proper officers.

The house then divided, and the numbers for laying the petition on the table were-Ayes, 26-Noes, The petition was therefore 51. rejected.

Mr. Brougham said, if the petihis his future proceedings, he should recommend him not to take one further step, nor to spend one farthing of his money in attempting

to gain redress.

Mr. Hume presented a petition against prosecution for the public cation of infidel works, signed by 2047 persons, of whom 98 were ministers. He proposed to follow up the reading of the petition with a motion which he should submit from a sense of duty, and which, if adopted by the house, as he anxiously hoped it would be, would tend to check the mischief which had been caused by recent proceedings.

On the motion that the petition

be printed,

Mr. Butterworth asked by how many ministers of the Church of England this petition was signed, and of what class of dissenters the other petitioners consisted.

Mr. Hume replied, that it was signed by dissenters of all classes, and the names of the ministers

were in a separate column.

Mr. W. Smith could not see the pertinency of the honourable member's question. The petition was however signed, he could assure him, by persons whose religious opinions were as perfectly opposed to each other as possible.

The petition was ordered to be

printed.

Mr. Hume then rose for the purpose of making the motion of which he had given notice. His object was to obtain the admission of that principle which he had always thought to be part of the law of this country—namely, that every individual was entitled to freedom of discussion on all subjects, whether controversial or religious. The hon. member then went at some length into the subject, and

quoted the opinions in his favour, of Tillotson, Lowth, Warburton, Lardner, Campbell, Chillingworth, The hon, member and others. concluded by moving "That it is the upinion of this house that free discussion has been attended with more benefit than injury to the community, and it is unjust and inexpedient to expose any person to legal penalties on account of the expression of opinions on matters of religion."

After some observations from Mr. Wilberforce, Mr. Ricardo, Mr. Peel, and some other mem-

bers.

Mr. Hume said he would not press the house to a division on the resolutions, because, if they should be affirmed, there would not be time to pass a bill founded upon them during the present session.

The Speaker then put the question on the resolutions, which were negatived without a division.

*Mr. Grattan* moved that an humble address be presented to his Majesty, praying that he would. direct a prosecution to be commenced by the Attorney-General against the corporation of Dublin for mismanagement of the pipe, water, and metal main accounts.

Mr. S. Rice seconded the motion, which was opposed by Mr. Dawson and Mr. Goulburn.

After a few words from Mr. S. Rice, in explanation, Mr. Grattan consented to withdraw his motion, and it was accordingly withdrawn. The report on the Irish tithe composition bill was brought up, and the amendments read and agreed On the motion of Mr. J. Smith, the law merchant bill went through a committee.

The house resumed, and the report was ordered to be taken into consideration

consideration on Thursday next.---

Adjourned.

House of Lords, July 2.—A message from the Commons brought up the London-dock Company's bill, which was read the first time.

The Highland roads' bill was read the third time, and passed.

Earl Grosvenor presented a petition from certain architects, complaining of a particular clause in the London-bridge bill.

On the metion of Lord Melville, a clause was introduced into the London-bridge bill, modifying that part of the bill which gives a power to the Lords of the Treasury to

alter the plans.

The Eart of Liverpool said, that it never was the intention that the Lords of the Treasury should make alterations; but only that they should have a general official supervision.

The clause was agreed to, and the bill read the third time, and

passed.

The bills for altering the criminal laws were forwarded one stage, with the exception of the larcenies' bill, which, on the motion of the Lord Chanceller, was postponed to Friday.

On the bringing up of the report on the Scotch commissioners of in-

quiry bill,

Earl Grosvenor proposed to insert a clause to empower the commissioners to inquire into the nature of the office of Lord Justice General of Scotland, with a view to its being abolished.

The Eart of Liverpool opposed the clause, on the ground of the important duties already devolved upon the commissioners, and the limited time in which the report

must be made.

After a few words from the Eurl

of Aberdeen, Earl Grosvenor consented to withdraw his motion.

The report was then agreed to.

-Adjourned.

House of Commons, July 2.— Mr. Wilberforce presented a petition from certain persons at Persone, in Worcestershire, praying for the abolition of slavery.

Several petitions were presented from other places to the same ef-

Mr. F. Buxton moved; that there should be laid before the house an account of all medicines furnished by the Apothecaries' Company to the army and navy within the last five years; with the correspondence between the Admiralty and the Apothecaries' Company as to prices.

Mr. A. Robarte presented a petition from the masters, mates, and seamen of merchant vessels in the port of London, against the recipro-

city of duties bill.

Mr. T. Wilson presented a similar petition from the ship-owners of London, who complained of the manner in which the evidence was taken in the committee on the bift.

Mr. Thompson presented a petition from merchants of the city of London, complaining of the high duties upon foreign seed.—Laid

upon the table.

Sir J. Macintosh presented a petition from John Clark, late surgeon of the Berkshire militia, complaining of the regulations with respect to the pay of retired militia surgeons.—Ordered to be printed.

He then presented another petition of a more public nature, from a merchant, an inhabitant of New South Wales, complaining of a bill now before the house, which, as the petitioner alleged, went to deprive that colony of its most im-

2 B 2 portant

Mr. Huskisson expressed a wish that the hon, gent, would postpone his motion.

Mr. S. Rice said, if it depended on him alone, he would not press the question forward. That, however, was not the case; and if gentlemen opposite wished that the question should be put off, it was competent to them to move that the other orders of the day be now proceeded with.

After a few words from the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Speaker put the question-" that I do now leave the chair."

After some observations from Mr. C. H. Hutchinson, Mr. Canning, Mr. Goulburn, and other members, the motion was carried by 50 against 19. The house then went into a committee.

Mr. S. Rice submitted his first resolution. It was declaratory of the fact, that from the reports of the commissioners of courts of justice in Ireland, and from the report of a committee of the house, it appeared that the Chief Baron O'Grady had received fees in certain departments of his court, to which he was not legally entitled.

After some discussion.

The Solicitor-General moved as an amendment that the following words be added to the original resolution :- " And that it is further stated in the report of the select committee of this house, on the eleventh report of the commissioners of inquiry, that the directions of the Chief Baron, as stated by Mr. Pollock, to whom they were personally given, were, that the fee of 2s. 2d. should be charged and received for him on all bills of costs taxed in his office, and that if it had been so confined, it did not appear to the committee from any evidence that had come before them, that it would have been incorrect in the Chief Baron. except for the change in the currency, which had been before noticed."

Mr. S. Rice would have no objection to this amendment, if the learned Solicitor would agree to add to it the words which immediately followed them in the report from which they were taken.

The Solicitor-General objected

to the addition.

Mr. S. Rice then moved as an amendment upon the amendment, that the following words be added to it :- " And that under this regulation and practice, the fee is stated to have been received by the officers of the court on behalf of the Chief Baron in certain cases, and by the Chief Baron himself in others, upon all writs, except renewers of execution, stated in the eleventh report of the commissioners of inquiry, on which no bills of costs could ever have arisen. The opinion of the committee is, that the answer of the Chief Baron on this point is not satisfactory."

On the suggestion of Mr. Canning, Mr. S. Rice afterwards consented to omit that part of his amendment which alluded to the opinion of the committee above

stairs.

After considerable discussion, in which Mr. R. Smith, Mr. M. A. Taylor, and the Attorney and Solicitor - General took part, the amendment of Mr. S. Rice, on the amendment of the Solicitor-General, was agreed to. amendment of the Soliciter-General on the original resolution was then put, and likewise agreed to.

The

The original resolution was then passed with the amendments just described.

The second and third resolutions were then put and carried. They detail certain charges contained in the ninth report of the commissioners of inquiry against the Lord Chief Baron.

The other resolutions were post-

The Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again tomorrow.

The Irish unlawful oaths bill was read a third time, and passed.

—Adjourned.

House of Lords, July 3.—A message from the Commons brought up the lotteries, passage vessels, elective franchise, and unlawful oaths (Ireland) bills, which were read the first time.

The Earl of Shaftesbury presented a petition from the East India Company, praying for an equalization of the duties on sugar.

The larcenies bill went through: a committee, and was reported without amendments.

The Earl of Liverpool said he had prepared an amendment on the resolutions on appellate jurisdiction, which he thought would obviate the objection which the noble lord (Ellenborough) had made. He proposed that it should be printed, and considered on Monday.—Agreed to.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, July 3.— Mr. Bankes moved for a select committee to examine into the progress which had been made up to the present time in forming a general index to the journals of the house.

Mr. Macqueen presented a petition from the inhabitants of Dunstable, praying for a protection against the importation of foreign straw-plat.

Another petition to the same effect was presented from Luton, in Bedfordshire.

Lord W. Russell presented a similar petition from 8000 persons at Leighton Buzzard, in Bedfordshire, stating their distress in consequence of the importation.

Mr. Hume moved for a report of the last contract entered into for supplying the navy with slops. His object was to remove an impression which had got abroad, that the clothing issued to the mea was not good enough for the price at which it was charged.

Mr. Goulburn moved for leave to bring in a bill to divide the county of Cork. The object of the bill was a truly Irish one—it was to give the county five quarter-sessions in the year. This measure was brought forward with a view to expediting the trial of offenders.—Leave given.

Mr. Brougham wished to bring in a bill to correct a defect in the law of Ireland; and it would be a great convenience to him if he was allowed to bring it in without fore mally moving for leave. Previous: to the act of 21st Geo. II. there. were various corporations in Irea land, in which, by actual or presumptive charter, no person could: be a burgess unless he was a resis: dent, and the number of Protestants resident (none but Protestants) being then admissible) were so few, at the date of the act to which ha: alluded, that the charters were in: danger of being forfeited for want of assertion. To prevent that consequence, and under those par-: ticular cistumstances, the statute of the 21st Geo. II. was passed. which enabled non-residents to be

bur-

burgesses. As that act, however, in fact, abrogated every charter in Ireland, and as there was no longer any need of it-for Catholics were now admissible, and there were. besides, a sufficient number of resident Protestants, he (Mr. Brougham) wished to bring in a bill for its repeal. The bill would, of course, make residency again a necessary qualification. He wished only to bring it in and have it printed, and then let it stand over till next session. - Leave given.

Dr. Phillimore moved for leave to bring in a bill to amend the law with respect to the marriages of English Roman Catholics. the law now stood, Roman Catholics, after being married by a clergyman of their own persuasion, were bound to have the ceremony again performed in a Protestant church. To those who were scrupulous this was an offence; and he wished to place the Catholics of England upon the same footing (as to this point) with the Ca-tholics of Ireland. His idea was this-that the banns should be published in a Protestant church, and that afterwards, upon certificate of the banns produced, the marriage might be solemn. ized by a Roman Catholic clergy-He had a further object in the bill which he proposed bringing in, which was to make a certificate from a Roman Catholic priest sufficient to compel the registry of a child by a Protestant clergyman.-Leave was given to bring in the bill.

Sir H. Parnell declared that the degraded state as to the education of the people of Ireland was in a great measure owing to the operation of that law which prevented Roman Catholics from endowing schools and other charities. He concluded by moving for leave to bring in a bill to enable Roman Catholics to execute gifts and grants for pious and charitable uses, in the same manuer as Protestant dissenters are enabled to make gifts, grants, and legacies for such purposes.

Leave was obtained to bring in

the bill.

Mr. Forbes moved an address to the Crown, praying that there be laid before Parliament a copy of the instructions given by Lord Bathurst to Governor Bigg, on his proceeding to assume the government of New South Wales.—Ordered.

The report of the law merchants' bill was recommitted. Some verbal alterations were effected. The house resumed. The amendments were agreed to, and the bill was ordered to be read a third time tomorrow.

The order of the day being read, the house resolved itself into a committee on the charges against the Chief Baron.

Mr. S. Rice moved the fourth resolution, which embodied the allegations of the reports of the committee, and those of the commission, respecting the alteration directed by the Chief Baron, to take the fees in the Exchequer in English, instead of Irish currency, according to antecedent practice.

A desultory discussion ensued, in which Mr. Cunning, Captain O'Grady, Mr. R. Smith, Mr. Goulburn, Mr. Wynn, and the Solicitor-General took part, and which was terminated by Mr. S. Rice withdrawing the resolution.

The fifth resolution was then put, and carried.

The sixth resolution was then moved

moved, which stated that the Chief Baron bad altered the practice of the court by directing the fees payable on decrees to be paid at the time of setting down the causes, the consequence of which had been that he had received the fees in 478 causes, while decrees had been pronounced only in 344.

After a short conversation between Mr. Wetherell, Mr. R. Smith, and Mr. S. Rice, the latter gentleman agreed to omit the statement of the number of causes, and to retain that part of the resolution which declared that the Chief Baron had altered the practice of the court as to the period for payment of the fees.

The resolution so altered was

then carried.

The Chairman reported the original resolutions, and the report was ordered to be received on Mon-

day.

The insolvent debtors' bill was then discussed in a committee of the whole house. After some conversation between Mr. R. Smith, Mr. Bright, the Solicitor-General, Mr. T. Wilson, Mr. Lockhart, Mr. Hume, the Attorney-General, and Mr. W. Courtenay, the several clauses of the bill were agreed to; the house resumed, and the report was ordered to be received to-morrow.

On the motion of Mr. C. W. Wynn, that the house do resolve itself into a committee for further considering the report of the East India trade bill, the house went into a committee.

Several clauses were then agreed to without discussion. Some verbal amendments were made in others; and after some discussion carried on between Messrs. Astell, Robertson, T. P. Courtenay, and

Ferbes, the house resumed, and the report was ordered to be received to-morrow.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the

house adjourned.

House of Lords, July 7.—The royal assent was given by commission to the capital felonies' repeal, sentence of death, convicts' labour, assessed taxes' composition, Scotch turnpike roads, London-bridge, Southwark Court of Requests, and several private bills.—The commissioners were the Lord Chancellor, the Earl of Shaftesbury, and Viscount Melville.

Mr. Brogden, accompanied by several other members of the House of Commons, brought up the barilla duties' amendment, the Irish tithe commutation, the English Catholic qualification, and other bills, which were read a first time.

A person from the East India House presented an account of salaries and pensions granted by the East India Company.

Lord Dacre presented a petition from T. Deighton against the in-

solvent debtors' act.

Earl Grey presented a petition from the wool-growers of Northumberland, complaining of distress.

The Marquis of Lansdown presented a petition, signed by upwards of 2000 persons, amongst whom were 200 ministers of various religious persuasions, against prosecuting persons for writings supposed to be hostile to the Christian religion.

The Earl of Lauderdale moved the third reading of the bill for declaring valid the marriages solemnized at St. Petersburgh since the dissolution of the British fac-

tory there.

The bill was read a third time, and passed.

The beer bill was read a third

time, and passed.

On the motion of the Marquis of Lansdown, the English Roman Catholic qualification bill was read a first time.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, July 4.— The house was summoned by the Deputy Usher of the Black Rod to the House of Peers, to hear the Royal assent given by commission to certain bills.

Mr. Wyndham Lewis presented a petition from the corporation of Swansea, praying for a repeal of the coal duties.

The Irish law expenses bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed on Monday.

Mr. Brogden brought up the report on the malicious injuries bill, and on the Exchequer Courts bill; the resolutions were severally agreed to, and the bills ordered to be read a third time on Monday.

The Cork general sessions bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed on Monday.

The Exchequer-bills bill was read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Ellison presented a petition from South Shields, against the reciprocity of duties bill, and a petition from certain wool-growers against the repeal of the duties on foreign wool.

The barilla duties bill, the equalization of duties bill, and the English and Irish customs' duties bill, were read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Hume moved for the appointment of a select committee to consider if any and what improvement may be effected in the mode of engrussing bills.—Agreed to.

The Irish tithe composition bill was read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Goulburn brought up a

clause, providing that in case of appeal made to the Lord Lieutenant in council, as to any composition, he should be authorized to remit it to the next going judge of assizes, who should have the power to modify such composition as he thought fit.

After a few words from Mr. V. Fitzgeruld, the clause was agreed to, and added as a rider to the

bill.

Mr. C. Grant moved the order of the day for the third reading of the reciprocity of duties bill.

Mr. H. G. Bennet observed, that the first order on the paper was for a committee on the New South Wales jurisdiction bill. He wished the bill to go through a committee, pro forma, to be printed, and the discussion on it to be fixed for Monday.

Mr. W. Horton had no objection

to that course.

Mr. Peel observed, that the Lords' amendments in the prison discipline bill would be discussed on Monday, and would form a very proper preface to the new South Wales jurisdiction bill.

Lord Nugent expressed a wish that the right honourable gentleman (Mr. C. Grant) would postpone for a few minutes his motion relative to the reciprocity of duties bill, in order to enable him to move the third reading of the Roman Catholic qualification bill. It was of great importance at this period of the session that no time should be lost in forwarding the measure.

Mr. C. Grant would willingly grant the indulgence required by the noble lord.—The bill was then read a third time, and ordered to be carried to the lords.

Mr. C. Grant then moved the third reading of the reciprucity of duties bill.

Mr. Robertson called on the house to pause before they attempted to interfere with that system of navigation laws which had been so long supported by the wisest and ablest men in the country. The hon. member then proceeded to comment on the evidence given before the lords' committees on foreign trade, and argued, that at present, in consequence of the cheapness of timber, foreign vessels even now had an advantage over British ships, which would be greatly extended if the present bill were agreed to. He felt satisfied that the house, with such facts before them as he had adverted to-especially those extracted from the lords' report on foreign trade--would never pass this reciprocity bill, calculated as it was to work the ruin of the country. He moved, in conclusion, and by way of amendment, that the bill be read a third time this day three months.

[A message from the Lords brought their lordships' assent to several bills; and among others, the beer bill, without amendments, and a bill to regulate the solemnization of marriages between British subjects in India and elsewhere.]

Amere'

Mr Ald. Thompson seconded the amendment.

Mr. Wallace conceived, that at the time when the navigation laws were first enacted, they were measures of a wise and justifiable policy. In the infancy of a colonial trade, it was essentially necessary to put down a then existing, dangerous, Continental rival. But now, that object being answered, he doubted not that they ought to be remodelled and revised; and there could be no question, but that those laws had, in a great variety

of instances, been relaxed already by Parliament. To the welfare of a great naval power, nothing was so vitally essential as the extension of its commerce, by all proper and sound means. It was accordingly with such an object in view, that those measures recently introduced by some of the members of Majesty's government had been devised and proposed to Parliament. Those measures, indeed. had been so unfortunate as to elicit several taunts from the honourable gentleman, at the expense of those whom he was pleased to call speculating economists. He (Mr. Wallace) knew not, and would not stop to inquire, whether he was meant to be included in the reflection. Under the present system, common to the European powers in question, the only means of meeting either the heavy duties which they had imposed on our goods and shipping, or of being admitted with other nations to participate in the benefits of their commerce, where the duties were low, were in all possible respects, to place our duties and impositions upon a feeting of perfect reciprocity with theirs. It had been urged that foreign nations had great advantages over us in respect of their shipping interests, because they could build ships at a much cheaper rate than ourselves; but this advantage was counterbalanced by the fact, that British vessels were generally of greater capacity than they stood registered at; and, consequently, they paid less duty, in foreign ports, after the rate. Upon an average, again, it would be found that the wages of British seamen were cheaper than those of foreign sailors, all charges being taken into the account. From the Lords' 2 c 2

Lords' report it clearly appeared that neither the ships of Norway, Sweden, Russia, Prussia, France, nor Holland, could compete with English ships for cheapness of sailing. It was equally clear on the same very valuable authority, that upon all long voyages, such as those from the coasts of Africa and Asia, from India, the Brazils, and the West Indies, freights were always cheaper in English bottoms, than in any ships of Holland, France, or Denmark. Now the honourable member who spoke last had drawn a most discouraging, and, indeed, alarming picture, of the falling off of our shipping trade; there being, according to his calculation, a decrease within three years of employment or hire, to the amount of What would the 150,000 tons. house say, however, to a statement, on the authenticity of which they might depend, though he (Mr. Wallace) had had it prepared originally for another occasion, a statement of the comparative amount of British and foreign tonnage employed between the years 1815 and 1822; by which it appeared, that on the aggregate of eight years, we had had the advantage of our Continental neighbours by no less than 593,000 tons? Another subject of regret and complaint with the honourable gentleman was, the decrease in the number of British ships employed. With great submission, however, he (Mr. Wallace) thought that this diminution was, in effect, of great advantage to the shipping interest; for he had reason to know, that at the commencement of peace, there were so many British merchantmen, that this species of property became, of necessity, quite depreciated. It was impossible that the vessels could all find any thing like advantageous employment. that period, he heard nothing but complaints, on the score of their numbers; and he did believe it to be for the general benefit that since then, many of them had worn out, and had not yet been repaired; and a vast number (which was a singular fact) had been held. the result of all this had been, that as the numbers had decreased, the hire had risen, so as at length to afford the owner a remunerating price. (The right honourable gentleman then cited the authorities of Mr. Solly, and other merchants, on these subjects, as he found them in the Lords' report.) It might. however, be a satisfaction to the house to learn, that the shipping trade had increased in every respect very considerably since last year only; for in 1822, the number of ships employed was 18,736; their tonnage, 2,263,000 tons. In 1823, the number of ships employed was about 20,000; their tonnage, 2,390,000 tons. that the increase in one year was nearly 1400 in the number of ships, and 127,000 tons in the tonnage. He was quite sure that he had shown that this mode of equalizing our duties with those of other countries, was a safe one as regarded the interests of our shipping; and if so, it must be acknowledged that it was likewise the least invidious mode of preserving those advantages in our commercial relations which we already possessed.

After some observations from Mr. Rumbold, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Huskisson, and other members, the house divided—For the motion, 75—For the amendment, 15.

The bill was read a third time, and passed.

The house resolved itself into a committee.

Dr. Luskington rose to submit some alterations in the slave-trade consolidation bill. It was intended that the Privy Council should have power to allow the exportation of slaves in certain cases from one British colony to another till the year 1826; the island of Trinidad, together with Demerara, being excepted. Slaves were not to be exported under any circumstances from British colonies to either of the American continents. The reasons for excepting Trinidad and Demerara from the regulation, lay chiefly in the shocking waste of human life which was known to take place in those colonies. Between the years 1816 and 1821, there appeared a diminution' of 5000 upon a black population of 24,719, notwithstanding an importation in, the same period of 2628, and although, strange to say, the births were considerably more than the deaths. The latter circumstance was accounted for in the report of Sir Ralph Woodford, by the shameful irregularity and neglect of the planters in registering the number and state of their slaves. The rapid diminution, the same respectable authority attributed to the mortality which occurred in clearing the new grounds granted by go-He entered into other statements to prove that the same waste of life prevailed in Demerara. From these, which were the go-'vernment returns, the common feelings of humanity and justice would prevent them from keeping open an avenue of exportation so destructive to the black population.

The planters in those excepted colonies could set up no pretence to any right upon the subject. When the power of importation was left with them, there was no expectation of slaves ever being exported to them from the other British colonies, because these were all busied in increasing the number of their slaves, whose labour at the time was in the highest demand. He concluded by submitting his amendment.

After some conversation, Dr. Lushington consented to withdraw his clause.

The other clauses of the bill were then agreed to, and the house resumed.—Report on Tuesday.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the house adjourned.

House of Lords, July 7.—A person from the Treasury presented an account of the average price of barley.

Mr. Brogden, accompanied by several members of the house of commons, brought up the Exchequer bills, East India half pay and pensions, Court of Exchequer (Ireland), church rates (Ireland), passage vessels' regulation (Ireland), duties and drawbacks (Ireland), and customs' duties' regulation bills, which were read the first time.

The larcenies bill was read the third time, and passed.

Lord Holland presented a bill for relieving doubts as to marriages of British subjects solemnized in foreign parts, which was read a first time.

The Irish Court of Chancery bill went through a committee. Report to be received to-morrow.

The Earl of Rosslyn moved that

the

the house do resolve itself into a committee on the Scotch entails bill.

After some further discussion, in which the Earl of Landerdale, the Earl of Aberdeen, and the Lord Chancellor participated, the question was put on the original motion, and negatived without a division.

The Earl of Liverpool then moved the order of the day for the committal of the Irish insurrection act.

On the question that the bill be committed—Content, 36—Not centent, 5.

The house then went into committee, and Lord Ellenborough declared that the effect of this bill would be further to irritate the people of Ireland. He argued that there was not sufficient force in Ireland to carry it into operation.

The Duke of Wellington contended the contrary, and insisted that the advantage of the bill was this—that as the outrages were committed at night, it prevented people from being out of their houses after certain hours. He protested against throwing the ordism of the execution of the bill upon the military, if the civil authorities were competent to the duty.

Earl Fitzwilliam said, that he had never given a vote with more satisfaction than that just recorded against the further proceeding of this oppressive measure.

On bringing up the report,

The Earl of Rosslyn objected to the vague manner in which some of the clauses were worded.

Lord Holland observed, that this bill, which deprived the people of Ireland of the benefit of equal laws, had been sent into the house in a shape which precluded the possibility of amendment. The Earl of Liverpool anid, that in Ireland all parties were well acquainted with the nature of its provisions.

Lord Bexley said a few words, after which the report was agreed

The Earl of Liverpool moved that the resolutions regarding the appellate jurisdiction be entered on the journals.

It was ordered that the resolutions should be entered on the jour-

nals.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, July 7.—
The marriage act amendment bill was read a second time—to lie over till the next session.

The following bills were read a third time, and passed:—church rates in Ireland bill, Irish malicious injuries bill, Irish Exchequer court bill, Kilternan union bill, Irish passage vessels' regulation bill, East India half-pay bill.

The Cork general sessions bill went through a committee.—Ordered to be read a third time tomorrow.

The report of the Irish Exchoquer Court stamps bill was agreed to, and the bill ordered to be read a third time to-morrow.

The report of Lord St. Vincent's annuity bill was received: to be read a third time to-morrow.

The report on the Irish lines manufactures bill was brought up.

Mr. Hume moved as an amendment, that the report be taken into consideration this day three months. — The house divided— For receiving the report, 33—For the amendment, 7.

The bill was ordered to be read a third time to-morrow.

Mr. Wilberforce presented a petition from the Rev. John Lempriere, late master of the free

grammar

grammar school at Exeter, complaining of the arbitrary conduct of the trustees of the said school, in displacing him without cause, and praying that the house would be graciously pleased to refer his case to the commissioners appointed to inquire into the abuses of charitable institutions.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. Robertson presented a petition from William Smith, of the Commercial-road, master-mariner, stating that he, being employed in the South American trade, discovered, in the year 1819, the land called New South Britain, the name of which had since been called New South Shetland: that he communicated the discovery to the captain of an English ship: that he had refused the offers made to him by certain American merchants for his discovery; and upon applying for remuneration to the Lords of the Admiralty, was informed they had no funds for such a purpose. He therefore prayed for a recompense from this house, his discovery having been very valuable to the fishery in those sens.

Mr. Maberly presented a petition from Thomas Hagard, who had been taken up on suspicion of being concerned in the Cato-street conspiracy, praying the house to take his case into consideration.

Mr. Peel said the petitioner's case differed in no respect from that of any other person who should be taken up on suspicion. So far from no suspicion being entertained with regard to the petitioner, he could assure the honourable gentleman that there was quite enough to justify his committal for high treason. Some of the persons arrested on the occasion alluded to, were pro-

coeded against capitally; others had been transported; and some others (of whom the petitioner was one) were discharged in consequence of no prosecution being instituted against them. This was done by order of the Privy Council, but it by no means followed that there was no charge against the petitioner.

Mr. Hume said he had made some inquiries of certain of the petitioner's neighbours as to his respectability, and he learnt from them that he had lived in good tepute, and maintained himself decently by keeping a school, up to the period of the accusation. petitioner was ready to prove, and he challenged all proof to the contrary, that none of the conspirators had ever set foot within his house, with the exception of the spy, Edwards, whom he had educated when a boy. He had never seen Edwards for a period of twenty-one years until a few days before the discovery of the plot, when he paid him a visit, which led to the petitioner's arrest. (Mr. Hume) thought it was a great hardship upon the petitioner, who was in perfect health at the period of his commitment, and who was now so reduced by his sufferings as to be an object of commiseration, and entitled to the attention of the house.

After a conversation, is which Mr. Butterworth, Mr. Brougham, Mr. Peel, Mr. Conning, Aldermon Wood, and Mr. H. G. Bennet took part, the petition was ordered to be laid on the table.

Mr. Maberly then moved that it be printed.

Mr. Peel opposed the motion, alloging that the house was not a fit tribunal to try the case of the petitioner,

petitioner, who, if he had any thing to complain of, might find

redress in a court of law.

Mr. Denman supported the motion, and contended, that whatever might be the petitioner's merits, they could form no objection to the printing his petition, the intent of which was, that every member in the house might be acquainted with its contents.

The house then divided upon the motion for printing the petition, when the numbers were—Ayes,

31-Noes, 60.

Mr. Brougham said he held in his hand a petition from a person of the name of Robert Quinn, a surgeon of Belfast, to which he wished to call the attention of the house, as it complained of a very great abuse in the administration of justice, in the manner in which Baron MacClelland had conducted the petitioner's trial,—the manner in which the jury was chosen, and the influence used to obtain a verdict.

The petition was then read, and laid on the table.

On the motion of Mr. Wynn, the East India trade bill was read a third time, after a few words from Messrs. Hume, Forbes, and Money, who complained of the injustice which one of the clauses of the bill inflicted on the Lascars, or native seamen of India.

The bill, after a few words from Mr. Bright, Mr. Hume, and Mr.

Wynn, was passed.

Mr. Secretary Peel moved the taking into consideration the Lords' amendments to the above bill.

Mr. G. Bennet expressed his detestation of the barbarous punishment of flogging, which was recognized by one of the amendments in the bill, and moved that the following words be left out, " or personal correction in case prisoners are convicted of felony, or sentenced to hard labour."

Mr. W. Courtenay wished, before the house divided on this amendment, to move certain verbal amendments, which would not be opposed. The learned gent.'s amendments were agreed to.

The house then divided on Mr. Bennet's amendment, "That the words, 'or by personal correction, in case prisoners are convicted of felony, or sentenced to hard labour,' be omitted."—For the amendment, 22—Against it, 86.

Mr. Wilmot Horton then addressed the house on the order of the day for the further consideration of the New South Wales jurisdiction bill. He moved that the bill be re-committed. After some observations from several members, the house went into a committee.

On the reading of the clause, by which a commission consisting of seven officers should be appointed to try cases,

Sir J. Macintosh moved as an amendment, that such cases should be tried "by a jury of twelve men, duly qualified to serve as jurors in New South Wales and Van Dieman's Land, according to the provisions thereinafter mentioned."

Mr. W. Horton opposed the amendment, and contended that it would not be wise to grant such

a privilege at present.

Mr. H. Gurney, Mr. Wilberforce, Mr. Bright, Mr. D. Gilbert, Mr. Money, Mr. G. Bennet, and Mr. Hume, said each a few words in support of the amendment.— For the original motion, 41—For the amendment, 30.

On the succeeding clause

Mr. Canning observed, that as there appeared to be a serious difference of opinion upon the merits of this bill, he would suggest a compromise. Instead of passing the bill for an indefinite period of time, he would have it limited, so as to secure to the Parliament an opportunity of reconsidering it. He would, therefore, propose the period of five years or four years, after the termination of the next session of parliament, for its duration, which would give about two clear years of experience, upon which they would be enabled to determine for or against the re-enactment.

The amendment was moved accordingly, and carried without opposition.

Several other clauses were then agreed to, after which the house resumed, and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again to-morrow.

The law merchant bill was read a third time, and passed.

Mr. S. Rice fixed the farther consideration of the report on the conduct of the Chief BaronO'Grady for to-morrow.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the house adjourned.

House of Lords, July 8.—The Royal assent was given by commission to the beer, larcenies, felo de se, and Irish elections bills.

The beer duties and lotteries' bills were read the third time, and passed.

On the motion of Lord Holland, the marriages in foreign parts bill was read the second time.

The report on the Irish Court of Chancery bill was brought up, and agreed to.

The Scotch juries bill was read a second time.

The Irish tithe commutation bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed to-morrow.

The 14,000,000*l*. exchequer bills bill was committed; the other bills before the house were forwarded through their several stages; and the house then adjourned.

House of Commons, July 8.—
On the motion of Mr. F. Buxton, a return was ordered of the number of bushels of malt charged with duty from the 5th January 1822, to the 5th January 1823.

Mr. F. Buzton also moved for extracts or copies of correspondence with government as to the state of slavery at the Cape of Good Hope.

Dr. Phillimore brought in a bill for allowing Roman Catholic priests to solemnize marriages between Roman Catholics, under certain restrictions. It was read a first time: the second reading was postponed for three months, and the bill ordered to be printed.

The St. Petersburgh marriage bill was read a second time.

Mr. F. Buxton laid upon the table two petitions from places in Norfolk, against the existence of slavery.

Lord St. Vincent's annuity bill was read a third time, and passed.

Sir. J. Macintosh presented a petition from the body of emancipated convicts of New South Wales, complaining of the disabilities to which they were subjected by the courts of law in that country, praying to be relieved by the bill before the house for the better regulation of the colony. The honourable member stated, that

that the present petition had been forwarded to Great Britain with another to the House of Lords. which had not been presented, because the agents, from their correspondence with government, had understood that ministers were about to introduce a measure which of itself would be a gracious answer to the prayer of the petition. He was under the necessity of once more making an appeal, not to the equity or humamity, but to the strict justice of the house, on behalf of a body of men deprived of their rights, and who had been cruelly disappointed in the expectation that they would be restored to them. The petition stated the number of emancipated convicts to be 7556, by whose labour New South Wales had been cleared, cultivated, and brought to its present state of prosperity. The petitioners had 29,000 acres of land under cultivation, and 212,000 acres uncultivated: they had 1200 houses in towns, and they owned 42,988 head of cattle: they had 174,000 sheep, 2415 horses, 215 colonial vessels of various burdens, 150,0004 capital vested in trade, and in the whole a capital of about 1,000,000%. The petitioners stated, that in consequence of the instructions issued by government in pursuance of an act of parliament, they had been manumitted and allowed to enjoy all the rights of freemen until the determination of the supreme Court of New South Wales, (in consequence of lackes for which they were not answerable, but committed by the public departments, in not properly registering their pasdom, and not issuing a general pardon); that the oreditions of the act not having been

complied with, they remained in the condition of attainted felous. Since this decision, the petitioners had been deprived of their legal rights-they could not sue or be sued-could not give evidence in a Court of Justice. They trusted that the house would pay attention to their case, and afford them such relief as was in its power. To the hon, member this appeared to be not only a strong but an irresistible appeal, and it was still to be hoped that the clauses for the complete and immediate relief of the petitioners would still be inserted in the bill before the house. He protested against the delay of this measure until the next session, and still more to the grounds on which that delay was rested. An inquiry ought to be set on foot without delay; for if it were found on investigation that the pardon of the petitioners had been improperly or improvidently granted, it would materially alter their condition, and disappoint their expectations.-The petition having been read, it was laid upon the table, and ordered to be printed.

On the motion of Mr. Hame the correspondence between the East India Company and the Governor of Bombay, relative to the expedition against the Arabs, was ordered to be laid upon the

table.

Mr. G. Bennet, on bringing up the report of the committee on the Penitentiary, observed that it had twice visited the establishment, and that the duty it had discharged in this inquiry had been most disagreeable and painful. After all due investigation, the committee had come to the unanimous resolution, that no blame could attach to any person connected with the Penitentiary. The medical attendants and others had done their utmost, and if mortality had prevailed there, it was in no respect attributable to inattention. Diseases of an opidemic character not unfrequently prevailed in districts, and he had been told that in London, during the first three months of the present year, the mortality had been equal to the deaths in eight ordinary months. The hardness of the winter had no doubt contributed to produce this effect. It appeared in the report that the disorders prevailing in the Penitentiary had been greatly reduced, for whereas in May there were ninety persons under medical care, on the 3rd instant there were only thirty-nine. The honourable member also entered into some other details respecting the contents of the report, which was ordered to be printed.

Mr. Maberly moved for an estimate of all charges on the comeolidated fund, from January 1828

to January 1824.

Mr. J. Smith presented a petition from a merchant of the name of Lowe, complaining that the independence of New Colombia had

not been acknowledged.

Mr. Robertson impressed upon the house the high importance of conciliating the States of South America, for the sake of the boundless trade that would thus be opened to Great Britain. He objected also strongly to the manner in which ministers had accommodated themselves to the unjust and injurious demands of the powers of the Continent.

Mr. F. Buston and Mr. Merryat supported the petition, which was ordered to be printed.

The distilleries bill was then read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Hume moved the following resolutions with respect to the land tax.

"That by various returns presented to this house, during the last and present session of parliament, it appears, that the land-tax of England and Wales, made perpetual by the act of 38 Geo. III., c. 60, was fixed at 1,989,673L: that that amount was received and accounted for in each of the two years 1797 and 1798; and that, in the year ending the 5th of January, 1822, the amount of land-tax received and accounted for was only 1,234,168l., showing a diminution of 755,505l. in the annual receipt.

"That from the period of passing the act of 38 Geo. III., c. 60, to the 5th of January, 1822, the sum of 692.613L of land-tax in England and Wales has been redeemed; and, under the act of 46 Geo. III., c. 133, and other acts, small livings and charitable institutions have been exenerated from the land-tax to the amount of 88011. making together the sum of 701,414l. redeemed and exone-

rated in the 23 years.

"That these returns show an actual reduction between the amount received in the years 1821 and 1798, in the annual amount of land-tax, of 755,505l., whilst the sums redeemed and exonerated amount only to 701,4144.: making a difference and deficiency of annual land-tax of 54,091% to be accounted for.

"That out of the 701,414% of the land-tax redeemed and exonerated in 23 years ending the 5th of January 1822, 660,907 l. there-

of had been so redeemed and exonerated prior to the 5th of January 1813, leaving the amount unredeemed, and receivable in the year 1813 to be 1,328,766l.; and as the amount of only 40,507l. was redeemed and exonerated in the nine years, from the 5th of January 1813, to the 5th of January 1822, there remained of the landtax unredeemed, due, and receivable in England and Wales, in the said nine years, the aggregate sum

of 11,708,2771.; whilst it appears by the returns before this house, as well as by the annual finance accounts, that during that period 10,980,5894 only has been accounted for, showing a defalcation of no less a sum, in the aggregate of the nine years, than 728,6881., or an average of 80,965l. per annum; as more particularly exemplified in the following statement, viz.--

Land-Tax redeemed, exonerated, and received, in nine Years, from 1813 to 1821 inclusive.

Years ending	Amount redeemed in each year.	Amount exonerated in each year.	Total redeemed and exonerated.	Leaving the amount un- redeemed and receiv- able in each year.	Amount which has been ac- counted for (Vide No. 240.)
	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.
Dec. 1813	6,798	146	6,944	1,321,822	1,272,257
1814	9,459	1,124	10,583	1,311,239	1,261,020
1815	4,835	122	4,957	1,506,282	1,166,164
1816	3,452	••	3,452	1,302,830	1,203,310
1817	3,014	221	3,235	1,299,595	1,210,217
1818	3,900	379	4,279	1,295,316	1,240,535
1819	2,633	167	2,800	1,292,516	1,229,535
1820	2,098		2,098	1,290,418	1,163,385
1821	2,155	4	2,159	1,288,259	1,234,168
Total	38,344	2,133	40,507	11,708,277	10,980,589
Amount accounted for10				10,980,589	€80,965
Difference or defalcation 728,688					per ann. average.

" That, in addition to the defalcation exhibited in the preceding resolutions, it appears, that the expenses incurred under the beforementioned acts, for the redemption and exoneration of the land-tax, have amounted to the enormous sum of 388,945l., in the proportion of 59,0321. by the commissioners for the redemption and exonera-

tion of church and corporation lands; of 240,399l. by the Taxoffice; and of 89,6041. paid to the clerks of the commissioners of districts, as allowance for poundage on land-tax redeemed.

"That, in addition to the expenses incurred, as stated in the preceding resolution, there further appears, at page 204 of the finance

accounts,

accounts, for the year ending the 5th of January 1811, the following item; viz. 'To the commissioners for the redemption of land-tax, &c. by ecclesiastical and corporate bodies,' a charge of 12,000l.; which does not appear to be entered in any of the returns made to parliament, which purport to contain an account of all the expenses incurred under the said acts.

"That by a return made to parliament this session, it appears that there has been paid into the receipt of the Exchequer by the Receivers-General of land-tax, on account of interest on instalment considerations, and other payments deferred, since the passing of the act of the 38th of George III. c. 60, to the 5th of January 1828, the sum of 211,547l.; whilst only 75,968l. appear to have been accounted for in the finance accounts annually laid before parliament.

"That whilst in the nine years from the 5th of January, 1813, to the 5th of January, 1822, the total amount of tax redeemed and exonerated has been only 40,507l, the expenses in the same period have amounted to no less a sum than 82,487l. exclusive of 38,949l. paid to clerks of districts for poundage on land-tax, after it had been redeemed.

"That although the amount exonerated under the direction of the commissioners for the redemption and exoneration of church and corporation land in the year 1820, was only 3l. 17s. 4d., and in 1821, only 2l. 7s., and the expenses of their office during those two years (including 600l. per annum each to two acting commissioners, and 400l. per annum to a secretary) amounted to no less a sum than

4662l. 19s. 2d., yet it does not appear that his Majesty's Ministers have taken any measures to free the public from so great and unnecessary a charge."

On the first resolution being read.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer said, he trusted that in a few words he should show that they ought not be adopted by the house. In the first resolution the hon. member stated, "that the landtax of England and Wales, made perpetual by the act 38th Geo. III., was fixed at 1,989,673l. Now it was true, that by the act passed in 1797, this sum was named, but that act was called the annual land-tax act. In the year 1798 another act was passed, which made the land-tax perpe-This act assumed as its basis the sum of 1,989,673l., but a clause was introduced which left out the tax on pensions and offices which were not made perpetual. The sum thus left out was 127,000%. The act of 60th Geo. III. was the same as the act of 1797, minus the 127,000l, which was not perpetual but regulated by an annual act. The amount of this sum varied in different years, and it was reduced from 151,000l,, at which it stood in 1808, to 39,000l, which was its amount in 1820. Here the hon. gentleman had, in the outset, made a most erroneous calculation, and the whole of his deductions founded upon it were consequently erro-With respect to the exneous. pense, the right honourable gentleman contended that the sum of 388,9451., the expense of collection and management, was by no means money thrown away, for the country had already gained 1,500,000l. by the operation of the

He would admit, however, that some of the expenses were worthy of the consideration of his Majesty's government, in order to see how far they could be reduced. He would admit that the amount of exoneration within the last two years was very small; but the house would recollect, that the commissioners had a very extensive and delicate correspondence to maintain, and that great discretion was vested in them. At the same time, he would have no difficulty to inquire how far it might be necessary to continue the establishment permanently. But the honourable member would bear in mind, that all those commissioners exercised their functions under the authority of an act of parliament, and that it was not in the power of the Treasury to displace them at pleasure, without the introduction of a legislative measure. The Treasury, however, had shown no disposition to fill up the vacancies which had occurred. In conclusion he said, he should feel it his duty to inquire into the facts, how much better the duty might be performed. and with what diminution of expense to the public; but beyond the inquiry, he would not pledge himself at present. He must, however, negative the resolutions, as founded in error.

Mr. Maberly, after suggesting to his hon. friend to withdraw the resolutions, as, they were founded on an erroneous assumption, observed, that if those commissioners were not under the control of the Treasury, it was high time that they should be, or that the house should take the subject into its own hands. He was of opinion that the best way would be to leave the

subject to his Majesty's Ministers, who were the fittest to examine into it; but if something was not done in it early in the next session he pledged himself to bring it again before the notice of the house.

Mr. Hume said, that as his object was for the present answered by calling the attention of ministers to the subject, he would, with the leave of the house, withdraw his resolutions.

The resolutions were accordingly withdrawn.

Mr. Alderman Wood, after designating the lease of the Llanellychyd slate quarries to Mr. Dawkins Pennant as a gross job on the part of the government, moved for the appointment of a select committee to examine into the whole of the proceedings relative to the grant of the Crown to Lady Penryn and Mr. Dawkins Pennant for the working of the slate mines at Llanellychyd, in the county of Carnaryon.

Mr. Hume seconded the motion.

The house divided, when there appeared for the motion—Ayes, 9—Noes, 43.

The report of the resolutions relating to the Chief Baron O'Grady was brought up.

The Solicitor-General objected to placing these resolutions (though they were simply resolutions of fact) upon the journals, because, although no corrupt motive could be charged against the Chief Baron, yet if the house followed that course they would convey an implied censure upon that learned judge. He would therefore propose a resolution to follow the resolutions of fact to this effect:-- "Resolved, that it does not appear to this house that there is sufficient ground

ground to ascribe the alteration of the fees in the Court of Exchequer, stated to have been made by the Chief Baron of Ireland, to any improper motive on the part of that judge."

A conversation then took place at considerable length between Mr. Daly, Mr. Courtenay, Mr. Peel, Mr. Scarlett, Mr. Goulburn, and Mr. Canning, after which the further consideration of the report was adjourned till to-morrow.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the house ad-

journed.

House of Lords, July 9.—At a quarter before four o'clock there was a commission, the commissioners being the Lord Chancellor, the Earl of Shaftesbury, and Lord Maryborough, when the royal assent was given, in the usual form, to the lotteries' bill, the barilla duties' bill, Irish insurrection bill, and disembodied militia bill.

The Duke of Cumberland took the oaths and his seat.

Business was resumed at five o'clock.

Mr. Brogden, and several other members from the House of Commons, brought up the distilleries' bill.

A person from the tax-office brought up papers respecting the national debt.

A person brought up the amount of the expense of building new churches.

The Duke of Leinster presented a petition from certain freemasons in Ireland, against the unlawful oaths' bill.

The Bishop of Norwick presented a petition from the clergy of the diocess of Norwich, in savour of the Catholic qualification bill.

On the motion of Lord Melville, the Scotch commissary courts' bill went through a committee, and was reported.

The Earl of Verulam presented a petition from the Archdeaconry of St. Albans, against the Catholic qualification bill.

On the motion of Lord Holland, the foreign marriages' bill was read a third time, and passed.

The customs' bill, the Irish duties' and drawbacks' bill, the East India mutiny bill, and the Irish malicious injuries' bill, were severally committed and reported.

The Marquis of Lansdown presented a petition from certain persons residing in the counties of Surrey and Middlesex, praying for the introduction of a system of poor laws into Ireland.

The Marquis of Lansdown moved the second reading of the English Catholics Bill. It was opposed by Lord Redesdale, and supported by the Earl of Westmorland.

The Bishop of Norwich expressed his satisfaction, and would trouble the house with a very few words on the bill before them, though he must admit that it would require little less than inspiration to suggest a new argument on the subject. The result of these discussions were not such as might have been hoped from the liberal and enlightened spirit of the age in which we lived, and, above all, from the more extensive diffusion of the mild and tolerant spirit of Christianity, by the exertions of religious societies, and eparticularly the Bible societies. it must give pleasure to generous minds that prejudices were giving way in every quarter, except one, and he the more regretted that exception,

exception, as the question was not a religious but a political one. He would call their lordehips' attention for a few minutes, as at his age it might be the last opportunity he might have of protesting in his own name, and in the name of many excellent clergymen of his diocess, against some of the assertions contained in the petitions which had been placed on their lordships' table. They opposed such assertions, because Christianity could not be endangered by the admission of Roman Catholics to equal rights with their Protestant fellow-subjects, nor could the Government be weakened by uniting all hearts and hands in its favour. He might be told that these remarks had been made a hundred times, and very probably it might be so, but they could not be too often promulgated, so long as men, in defiance of reason and justice, year after year continued to repeat the same miserable objectionswho would hear of no reform either in church or state, however called for by public opinion, but resolved to live and die under the old establishment. In the varying scene of human life, it was difficult to conceive any resolve more imprudent than that: such language was particularly ill suited to the present state of knowledge, and to the active spirit of improvement which now pervaded our own and other countries—a spirit of which he trusted no Holy Alliance would ever be able to arrest the progress. Old establishments must submit to public opinion, for public opinion would not bend to them; and laws made 120 years ago, were not to continue in force when the reasons on which they were founded no longer existed, and

when their operation had therefore become dangerous. When improvements were daily made in every science, was the science of legislation alone to be stationary? That could never be. Every thing human must submit to the most powerful and uncontrollable of nature's laws. The senseless cry against innovation had been preceded by that of "No Popery;" but he hoped the days were past when such clamour would have the nower to excite disturbance. Most of the middling class, and indeed few of the lower classes of society, but what were convinced that to what was called innovation, wewere indebted for many of the blessings which we enjoyed. Revolution was an innovation, Christianity itself was an innovation: and the Roman historian bad given an oration pronounced before the Emperor Valentinian against that innovation, in which the orator had personified the Pagan establishment, and introduced a sacerdotal petitioner, who entreated the Emperor to reverence the old establishments, and not to trouble the repose of her declining years by touching a religion under which the empire had flourished for so It was thus the many years. Christian high churchman of the present day argued, in his alarm at the bare mention of innovation in church or state. He was persuaded, that within a short period a very great change had taken place in public opinion, and that at present a very large proportion of the lay community were decidedly favourable to Catholic emancipation: and the Protestant dissenters also were united in working for the removal of all disabilities. In Russia, Prussia, and he believed Austria,

Austria, the Protestants were admitted to those privileges from which we excluded our Roman Catholic fellow-countrymen, and in France he had never heard that the Catholic clergy had objected to the admission of Protestants to the highest honours and employments. The clergy of the church of England were, he believed, the only body of men in Europe, in the nineteenth century, who openly espoused the cause of intolerance. For himself he would say-" Dum memor ipse mei, dum spiritus kos reget artus," though there was but little satisfaction, as he could testify from sad experience—indeed there could be nothing but honest conviction to induce a clergyman to differ from the majority of the wise and good of his own profession. On reverting to the unreturning hours of early life to which we naturally looked back with regret, how much more painful was that retrospect to him, from baving presumed to censure better men than himself, or the folly to differ from those who were wiser! The right reverend prelate concluded in the words of one of the most judicious and practically wise prelates who ever sat on the bench of bishops he meant Bishop Burnett, who had laboured with Archbishop Tillotson to promote a comprehension of all dissenters, on the principle that as they were faithful to the government, they were entitled to all its benefits, notwithstanding any speculative differences in their religious opinions, with which the state had nothing to do. Bishop Burnett said, that there was then an opportunity (the first that had occurred since the Reformation) to promote that desirable object; but if the opinions of sour and narrow-1823.

minded mea. were followed, every thing would be thrown into confusion. He (the Bishop of Norwich) had just had two petitions put into his hands, one from the county of Norfolk, and the other from the clergy of the county of Norfolk, against granting any farther concessions to the Catholics. It was hardly necessary for him to say, that he hoped their lordships would turn a deaf ear to their prayer.

The two petitions were ordered to lie on the table.

The Bishop of St. David's deprecated the impolicy of granting any farther concessions to the members of a church so intolerant as the Roman Catholics.

The Lord Chancellor opposed the bill, the Earls of Harrowhy and Liverpool supported it. After some observations from Lord Clifton, the Earl of Limerick, and Lord Melville, their lordships divided, Melville, their lordships divided, present), 43—Proxies, 30—Total, 73.—Against it (present), 41—Proxies, 39—Total, 80.—Majority against the bill, 7.

The Earl of Liverpool moved that the house do resolve itself into a committee on the tithe commutation bill.

Lord Clifden, before the question was put, moved that it be an instruction to the committee, to introduce a clause to empower the Lord Lieutenant, under restrictions, to appoint a commission for the purpose of settling the amount of composition for tithes, such amount to be determined with reference to the sums paid for tithes for a specified number of years previously to the valuation being made.

The Earl of Liverpool, although he believed that ultimately it would 2 D be be necessary to add a compulsory clause to the bill, was of opinion that more advantage would result from trying it as a voluntary measure in the first instance.

Lord King said, that without the introduction of a compulsory clause the bill would be nugatory. That the reverend lords opposite well knew. To get rid of the tithes in Ireland was, in his opinion, the best means of affording Ireland relief. The church of Ireland was a principal cause of the unhappy condition of that country. The established religion insulted the people by its ascendancy, and impoverished them by its exactions -it made the country a hell upon earth-it held forth, not the principles of peace, but the sword—it did not, as it ought, promote goodwill among men; indeed those who -lived by it did not venture to assert that it did good: it was a profanation of the name of Christianity. The situation of the Irish people was really deplorable. He knew that some people thought that a large church establishment was a good thing, and that there could be no dignity or grace in the performance of religious duties with-Now he would appeal to the noble Secretary of State opposite, whether he did not see the service performed in Hatton-garden with as much grace and dignity as ever it had been performed by a bishop? Yet the service in Hattongarden was not bottomed on tithes. He might also appeal to the noble earl at the head of the Treasury, who, he understood, had also been to Hatton-garden, as to the excellent manner in which the service was performed there. If the minister had been aware that he had for a hearer the protector of mitred

heads, he might in the language of his church have advised him not to promote priests with priestly hearts. The noble lord concluded by declaring that the church of Ireland ought to yield some of its privileges with regard to tithes, in order to preserve the rest.

Lord Ellenborough thought that the bill would be less exceptionable if the compulsory clause were introduced, than it was in its present form; but still he would not vote for it, because the measure was not what the people of Ireland required. They wanted a bill for the commutation of tithes; and not, like the bill before the house, one for their composition.

The Earl of Limerick and the Earl of Darnley expressed themselves favourably towards the bill-

·Lord Holland felt himself called upon to state the grounds upon which he intended to vote for, or rather the reasons which would induce him not to vote against, the motion for going into a committee. The noble lord on the woolsack, in the course of a former debate which had taken place that night, had endeavoured to weaken the effect of the speech which had been delivered by the reverend prelate opposite (the Bishop of Norwich)—a speech fraught with more Christian charity and real wisdom and learning than any which he (Lord Holland) had ever heard in that house—by relating an anecdote of Bishop Hoadly, with whom perhaps the reverend prelate opposite was the only bishop that could for one moment be compared. noble and learned lord had, however, incorrectly quoted the words of Bishop Hoadly, when he said that the eminent prelate had declared that the Reformation was no blessing

blessing without the Revolution. The declaration of Bishop Hoadly was, that the Restoration was no blessing without the Revolution. So he (Lord Holland) thought that the bill before the house would be no blessing without the compulsory clause was introduced into it. considered the bill as a recognition of the intention of the house to redress that which Mr. Pitt had twenty years ago declared to be an evil. The bill was the only miserable pittance which, during twentythree years, the wisdom and justice of parliament had condescended to give to the people of Ireland. On that account he would vote for going into a committee, without pledging himself to assent to the third reading, unless the measure received considerable improvement in the committee. But he wished it to be understood, that he would not vote for the committee on the grounds which the noble earl opposite had on a former night urged to obtain the support of the rev. prelates to the bill. The conduct of the noble lords on his (Lord Holland's) side of the house was more ingenuous than that of the noble earl, for they plainly stated that they wished to compel the church to consent to a commutation of tithes on the broad principle that necessity and the salus populi He then reverted to required it. the motion before the house. adopted, he believed it would materially improve the bill: he should think that if the compulsory measure were introduced, the seed would at least be sown, and he should have some hope that the harvest would be reaped at some period, however distant. For this reason it had his cordial concurrence.

The Earl of Liverpool had no hesitation in saying that a compulsory measure was necessary; but it was also necessary first to know what was exactly meant by compulsion. To fair and equitable compulsion he had no objection: it had formed a part of the former bill, and had only been struck out because differences of opinion arose with respect to the sort of compulsion. He felt obliged to oppose the motion.

The house then divided, when it appeared the numbers were —For the motion, 11—Against it, 34.

The bill then went through the committee, was reported without amendments, and ordered to be recommitted on Friday next.

The Irish exchequer courts bill went through a committee: after which the house adjourned.

House of Commons, July 9.— The Speaker having been summoned to the Lords, on his return read the titles of the bills that had received the royal assent by commission.

Mr. Calvert presented a petition from Hadleigh against the duty on coals carried coastwise.

The Cork general sessions bill was read a third time, and passed.

On the motion of Mr. Wilmot Horton, the house went into a committee to consider the acts relating to Newfoundland. The honourable gentleman then proposed a resolution for the establishment of courts for the better administration of justice, &c. in Newfoundland.—The report was brought up, and it was ordered to be received to-morrow.

Mr. Wynn moved the farther consideration of the Fast India mutiny bill; and, after a few words from Mr. R. Smith, the bill was 2 D 2

recommitted. — Report to-morrow.

The report of the Irish law expenses bill was brought up, and the amendments were agreed to.

The St. Petersburgh marriage bill went through a committee, and was then read a third time, and passed.

The Irish linen manufacture bill was read a third time, and passed, after *Mr. Ricardo* had stated that the objections he had formerly made to it were in no respect removed.

The report was brought up on the marriage act amendment bill. Third reading to-morrow.

Mr. Brougham presented a petition from Mr. W. Plunkett, of Dublin, complaining of certain hardships in the fulfilment of contracts for coals for the barracks.

Mr. Goulburn was not prepared to enter into the facts of the case at present, but stated that the claims of the petitioner had been rejected by every successive government in Ireland for a series of years.

Mr. Brougham rose for the purpose of moving that the order for the committal of the retail beer bill be discharged indefinitely. The hon. member observed particularly upon the strong opposition this bill had met with from the brewers, whom it was intended to aid; and from the landed interest, whose distresses it would most importantly alleviate. The honourable gent. moved that the order be discharged.

Mr. Western said, that if the bon. gent. had persisted, he should have given the bill his support.

Mr. Alderman Wood said, that he was assured his honourable friend had not read the returns

made to the house, of the number of public-houses in England. number in London is 4142; the country, 43,919; making together 48,061. Out of which number, 20,612 brewed their own beer; and how, therefore, could his honourable friend charge this as a mono-The quantity brewed by poly? the brewers was 2,192,371 barrels -by the victuallers, 2,152,644; being nearly the same quantity as brewed by the common brewers. It should be observed, that all the houses in one county did not draw on an average more than 100 barrels a week; and supposing onethird of this to be retailed out of doors, this would be about 33 barrels. He would suppose one person only to become a retailer under this new bill, and that the publican retained one-half of his trade; he would only sell sixteen barrels in a year; his licence would be 41. 8s.; this would add rather more than 5s. per barrel, or one halfpenny per pot or quart of He therefore asked how his honourable friend would secure the public by his new bill? He would ask whether the beer were equal in quality to that drawn by the publican, who had cellars and every convenience, together with a quick draught for his beer? The retailer would have such considerable expenses in the management of his trade that it would leave him no He would suppose the public-houses in London and Middlesex, being 4142, should draw 310 barrels; and considering there would be a larger number of retailers, that would bring it to the same point: therefore, no part of the public would have any advantage. He would suppose that in each public-house there were six in family,

mily, making 288,000 persons; and without entering into any calculations of the number of brewers that would be injured, he might venture to say that their families would be nearly ruined; for at least twenty-four millions of property was invested in that trade, and, if the breweries are included, at least forty millions: the government would lose at least 100,000%. a year in the stamp duty on transfer: and was it nothing that these publicans maintained soldiers, paid several licences and very heavy taxes? The Magistrates had control over their houses: they would have none over the retailer-he might send beer to the next door, where persons might assemble The publiwithout that control. can had to accommodate every traveller, and keep his house open at a great expense. They were generally a very active, industrious class of men, and very few of them saved money. Many farmers that had been unfortunate, had found this almost the only asylum; for, by the assistance of the capital of brewers, they had been able to obtain a house, and by their industry enabled to maintain their families. With regard to the statement of his honourable friend, that it would assist the farmers in obtaining a higher price for barley, this he denied: it was the capital of the browers that assisted the farmers: they had only to show a good sample of barley, and they were sure to sell, and very frequently got their money before the barley was delivered: they never would have received from seventy shillings to eighty shillings a quarter, had there not been a considerable capital employed: that capital enabled the brewer to force a trade, and

by that means to keep down the price, which caused a larger consumption of barley: and if the government would take off the duty on beer, it would be reduced to three-pence per quart. This was the only fair and equitable mode of legislating, that the poor or labouring man should not pay more for his beer than the rich. Were this plan adopted, the public would require no other; and his hon. friend, if he would take the trouble to look into this question, he had no doubt would be satisfied.

The order for the commitment of the bill was then discharged.

On the question that the report on the qualification of jurors' bill be farther considered,

Mr. Western moved that that order be discharged.

After a few words from Mr. Western, Mr. Peel, Mr. Brougham, Mr. Scarlett, and Mr. Taylor, the order of the day was discharged.

Mr. Baring presented a petition from Mr. Joseph Miller, formerly a merchant trading in the Levant, who had gone from Smyrna to Egypt at the time of the expedition, who had rendered considerable service to the army from his knowledge of the country, and especially of the forts and works about Alexandria. He had brought home the strongest certificates as to the importance of his services, from Sir S. Smith, Sir J. Stewart, and Lord Hutchinson, which had been duly presented to the government. He had in consequence received 100%, which barely paid, as the house must very well know, the expenses of his application. the certificates had been withheld: and so had a letter written to him by the French general-in-chief, partly in French, partly in English. The The petitioner complained of the heavy losses and suffering which he had incurred, and prayed the house would be graciously pleased to take measures for causing his papers to be restored to him.

Mr. C. Hutchinson had heard of the petitioner, and had made inquiries of his noble relative respecting him, and was able to corroborate the statements in the petition, so far as they referred to the importance of the service which he had rendered to the army of Egypt. —The petition was ordered to be printed.

Mr. C. Hutchinson presented a petition, which had been put into his hand at the door of the house. signed by certain inhabitants of Middleson and Surrey, praying that the house would take into consideration the distressed state of the Irish labouring poor, and extend the benefit of the English poor laws to that country. He had felt it to be his duty to present the petition; but be could not concur with the petitioners, that the poorlaws would do any thing very effectual to the relief of the distresses which prevailed in Ireland.

Mr. Denison said, that the people of Surrey had felt enough of the inconvenience of the present system of poor-laws, and he could not believe that any great number of them could be serious, in wishing to see them extended to Ireland.—The petition was ordered to lie on the table.

Colonel Davies put questions respecting the intentions of government to extend the principles of official reform, which had been so laudably adopted in other cases, to the establishments in the Isle of Man.

Mr. Herries answered in the affirmative.

Colonel Palmer moved, "That a humble address be presented to his Majesty, for a copy of the instructions regulating the conduct of Sir William A'Court, respecting any changes which might be made by the Cortes in the internal government of Spain, or such extracts therefrom as might be laid before the Parliament without detriment to the public service."

The question was put on the above motion, and negatived without a division.

The order of the day was read for resuming the debate upon the resolutions relative to the conduct of the Chief Baron O'Grady.

The Speaker having read the resolution, and the amendment thereon moved last night,

Mr. S. Rice opposed the resolution altogether.

Mr. Scarlett thought the proceedings were in such a state that the house could not only not come to a vote of censure against the Chief Baron, but that they could take so farther steps in the business. He therefore recommended its post-ponement altogether.

The Speaker then said, the original motion was, "That it is attated in the fifth report of the commissioners that it is not their province to discuss 'how far, or within what limits, the judges of the superior courts of law are authorised to establish new or increased fees for their own services; but that it will be seen from the table aubjeined (to their report), that a discretion of this nature has, in fact, been exercised to a considerable extent, at some period or periods, within the last hundred

years;

years; and that, during the time of the present Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, such an exercise of judicial authority appears to have occurred in three instances:' since which amendment had been moved, to leave out the words :-- "And that. during the time of the present Chief Justice of the Common Pleas. such an exercise of judicial authority appears to have occurred in three instances:" the question, therefore, he had to put was-"That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the question;" which was carried in the negative; consequently the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. S. Rice said, that certainly the mode proposed by his learned friend (Mr. Scarlett) was the most convenient and expeditious way of getting rid of the question altogether; and he would leave it to those who advised such a course, who were willing that judges should exercise the power which was censured by the commissioners in their report, to take the whole responsibility of the proceeding on themselves. He should move as an amendment to the resolution, "but that it is not stated in the aforesaid fifth report, that those fees were taken for the judge's own emolument."

After a conversation of some length, a division took place—For the resolution, 38—Against it, 16.

The Lancaster county courts bill was read a third time, and passed.

The house resolved itself into a committee on the New South Wales jurisdiction bill.

Mr. Peel proposed an amended clause, the object of which was that

the confirmation of pardons granted to convicts by the governor of New South Wales should be confined to that country.

Sir J. Macintosh opposed this clause; and contended that the confirmation ought to be as full as possible.

After a conversation between Mr. Wilmot, Mr. Forbes, Mr. Bright, and Mr. H. Gurney, the clause was agreed to.

The house then resumed, and the report was ordered to be received to-morrow.

The other orders of the day were then disposed of, and the house adjourned.

House of Lords, July 10.—The royal assent was given by commission to the gaols building, land tax commissioners, prison laws' consolidation, army prize-money distribution, St. Petersburgh marriages validity, Court of Chancery (Ireland), London docks, and several private bills. The Commissioners were the Lord Chancellor, the Earl of Skaftesbury, and Viscount Melville.

The Marquis of Lansdown presented a petition from the chamberlain and two other members of the corporation of Limerick, praying to be heard by counsel against the Limerick city regulation bill.

The petition was rejected.

Mr. Brogden, accompanied by other members of the House of Commons, brought up the insolvent debtors and Lancaster county court bills, which were read a first time.

The Cork general sessions and malicious injuries (Ireland) bills, were read the third time, and passed.

The church rates (Ireland), passage

sage vessels regulation (Ireland), law merchant, stamp duties (Ireland), and Viscount St. Vincent's pension bills, were severally committed, and reported without amendments.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, July 10.—
The Speaker was summoned to the House of Lords; and, on his return, he read the titles of the bills that had received the royal assent by commission.

Mr. Abereromby observed, that on the 5th of May last he had presented a petition from many thousand persons in Edinburgh, praying a change in the representation of that city: in consequence of the pressure of business, he had not been able to bring in a bill for that purpose in the present session, but he now gave notice that early in the next he would move for leave to bring in a bill to alter the representation of the city of Edinburgh.

Mr. Leake said, that it was his intention, in the next session of parliament, to submit to the consideration of the house two bills: the one for the furtherance of justice in the Court of Chancery; for preventing persons disqualified, or not duly qualified, from being appointed officers, clerks, or ministers of the said court: for the better regulation of the several offices most immediately connected with the practice of the said court, particularly the Master's offices. the Register's office, and the Examiner's office; and for appointing a commission to settle and ascertain the fees to be received at such offices for the future, for the purpose of creating a fun\_to defray so much of the salaries to he paid to the officers, clerks, and ministers of the court, in lieu of the fees and

emoluments now received by them respectively, as have not already been provided for by the Crown, under the authority of parliament or otherwise; the other bill for the better and more speedy administration of the several laws relating to bankrupts; and for preventing persons for the future being appointed commissioners of bankrupts who are disqualified, or who are not duly qualified to act as such.

Mr. Brougham presented a petition from Lieutenant Isaac Ritchies, who had been reduced to half-pay at the close of the American war, complaining that he only received the small sum of two shillings and twopence per day, while other officers of much less standing in the service obtained more than four shillings per day. The same honourable member also presented a petition from Colonel George Williams, a magistrate of the county palatine of Lancaster, stating that he had incurred an expense exceeding 400l., and had saved the county 3800l., by proceedings in the Court of King's Bench, to quash certain orders of the bench of justices, giving the Clerk of the Peace a per centage upon the money employed in repairing and building bridges, in lieu of the fees to which he would have been entitled had those bridges been indicted. The petition set forth other orders of the magistrates equally illegal, particularly for the supply to them out of the county rate, of a copy of each Act of Parliament printed by the King's printer; and it prayed that some restriction might be imposed upon the magistrates in the levy of county rates.

Mr. Bankes doubted whether any relief

telief could be given, or any remedy

applied; and

Mr. Brougham stated more particularly the prayer of the petition, which did not ask any reimbursement of the money Colonel Williams had expended.

Mr. F. Palmer noticed the circumstance, that in Lancashire the county rates had been increased from 16,000l. a-year to 40,000l, while, in other counties, they had been materially reduced.

The petition was read, laid upon the table, and an order was made

that it be printed.

Sir J. Sebright laid upon the table a petition from Flamstead, for a duty on the importation of Leghorn hats.

At the request of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Colonel Davies postponed his motion respecting the mode in which the indemnity money paid by France to this government had been expended.—The honourable member stated that he should not fail to bring the matter forward early in the next session.

The ressional addresses for the payment of the officers of the house were voted in a committee, and the report was brought up and agreed to.

The Penitentiary bill went through a committee.—Third read-

ing to-morrow.

Mr. Brougham presented a petition from 150 mechanics, &c. of the metropolis, praying the adoption of Mr. Owen's plan. He was surprised to find that the general assembly of the church of Scotland charged Mr. Owen with the omission of religious education in his system, when the fact was, that, out of eleven masters belonging to his establishment, no less

than ten were ministers of different persuasions.

The Irish law expenses bill was read a third time, and passed.

The Attorney - General moved the third reading of the Scottish law commission.

Mr. Brougham, Mr. Canning, Mr. Abercromby, Mr. Peel, and other members, spoke; after which the bill was read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Hume moved for "copies of all correspondence between the committee of British merchants at Malta, the government at Malta, and the colonial office in England, from the year 1814, respecting the quarantine regulations at Malta."

Mr. Hume said he would not press his resolution, if the honourable gentleman, Mr. Horton, would agree to make such extracts from the correspondence as appeared to be essential.

Mr. W. Horton assented to the proposition, and the motion was withdrawn.

Mr. Holford moved for extracts from the minutes of the superintending committee of the Penitentiary at Millbank, of the 21st of March last, as to the quantity of bread to be given to each prisorer ordered to be confined on bread and water; also extracts from the report of the medical officers, recommending the same.—Ordered.

The papers were soon after brought up, and ordered to be printed.

The slave trade consolidation bill was read the third tir.e, and passed.

Mr. Br. den brought up the report of the committee on the Newfoundland acts. The principal resolution set forth, that it was expedient

pedient to establish courts for the better administration of justice in Newfoundland.

The resolutions of the committee were agreed to, and a bill ordered to be brought in conformably therewith. The bill was soon after brought in, read a first time, and ordered to be read a second time this day three weeks, and to be printed.

The marriage act amendment bill was read the third time, and passed.

The New South Wales jurisdiction bill was reported.—Third reading to-merrow.

Dr. Phillimore brought in a bill to render valid marriages solemnized by British chaplains in the lines of the British army abroad.

Read a first and second time.—
To be committed to-morrow.—
Adjourned.

House of Lords, July 11.--The Royal assent, by commission, was given to the following bills:--The English customs' duties bill, the Irish customs' duties bill, the malicious injuries (Ireland) bill, the East India half-pay bill, and the Irish Court of Exchequer bill. The Commissioners were, the Lord Chancellor, the Earl of Shaftesbury, and Lord Colchester.

The following bills were brought up from the House of Commons:

—The foreign marriages bill, with amendments; the new South Wales jurisdiction bill, the Scottish place of worship regulation bill, and the bill for appointing commissioners to inquire into the state of courts of justice in Scotland.

The second reading of the churches in Ireland bill was postponed until Monday, as was also that of the Limerick corporation bill.

The Earl of Lauderdale moved the second reading of the Scotch juries bill.

Lord Melville said he would give his decided opposition to the bill, on the ground that no practical evil had arisen from the present mode of striking juries in the Courts of Scotland. He therefore moved that it be read a second time that day two months.

The Earl of Rosslyn supported the bill.

The Earl of Aberdees depied that there existed any urgent necessity for this measure.

The Earl of Lauderdale replied; and their lordships divided, when there appeared: Content, 9—Not Content, 20.

Mr. Brogden and other members from the Commons brought up the East India mutiny bill, and the Millbank Penitentiary bill, which were severally read a first time.

The Irish tithes commutation bill passed through a committee, and was reported without amendment.

The house next resolved itself into a committee on the illegal oaths (Ireland) bill.

The Duke of Leinster moved the insertion of a clause, the object of which was to exclude the society of Freemasons in Ireland from the operation of the bill.

The Earl of Liverpool said, he fest it his duty to oppose the introduction of the clause. He thought that the operation of the bill ought to be universal. If an exception were allowed in favour of any class of his Majesty's subjects, however respectable, it would afford

afford other societies ground of com-

plaint.

The question on the adoption of the clause was then put and decided in the negative, and the bill was reported without amendment. —Adjourned.

House of Commons, July 11.— The Speaker attended in the Lords, and on his return read the titles of the bills that had received the Royal assent by commission.

Mr. Wilberforce presented a petition from the ministers and elders of the separate church of Selkirk, for the abolition of sla-

very.

On the motion of Mr.W. Horton, a new writ was ordered for Newcastle-ander-Lyme, in the room of W. Kinnersley, Esq. deceased.

On the motion of Mr. Lushington, a return was ordered of the names of all members of the House of Commons in the first parliaments of Geo. L and Geo. II. holding offices.

The report of the committee on the sessional addresses was brought

up and agreed to.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer moved an address to the Crown to confer some dignity in the church on the Rev. Frederick Baylay, chaplain of the house; also that the house at its rising do adjourn to Wednesday next.—Ordered.

Mr. Calcraft gave notice, that early in the next session he would propose the repeal of the duty on

leather.

The New South Wales jurisdiction bill was read a third time, and

passed.

Mr. W. Wynn moved the third reading of the East India mutiny bill. The bill was read, and passed.

The Millbank Penitentiary bill

was read a third time, and passed, after a few observations from Mr. Hobhouse, Mr. Gordon, Sir C. Long, Mr. Gurney, and Mr. Lockhart.

The foreign marriage bill went through a committee, was read a

third time, and passed.

Mr. Wilberforce rose for the purpose of submitting a motion relative to the slaves and free Indians at Honduras. He read extracts from a report by Colonel Arthur, relative to the treatment of the slaves. He did not mean to deny that they received a sort of rough humanity from the hands of their masters; they were provided with food and clothing: but, owing to the little regard which was paid to them in other respects, they were often exposed to great The honourable memcruelty. ber mentioned an instance in which a female slave of a Dr. Bobun bad been very cruelly used; for which, when that person was tried, he had been acquitted. The injustice which was practised towards the free Indians was still greater, because it was contrary to all law. The Indians of the Continent of America could by no means become the property of any owners; they were free by birth, and nothing could legally deprive them of this freedom; but they were still held in slavery at Honduras. The hon, gentleman concluded by moving-"That a select committee be appointed to inquire into the condition of the slaves and free ladians in Honduras, and to report their observations thereon to the house."

Mr. W. Horton suggested the propriety of withdrawing the motion until the next session, as the subject subject was now under consideration; and a measure would be introduced for the relief of the slaves.

Mr. Wilberforce consented to withdraw his motion, in consequence of the assurance that government had taken up the subject.

Mr. W. Smith presented a petition from the inhabitants of St. John's Hackney, praying for the abolition of negro slavery.—Laid on the table.

Mr. W. Smith moved for a return of the amount of the slave population in each of his Majesty's colonies, whistinguishing males from seinales, for each year, since the first establishment of the office for registering colonial slaves.—Ordered.

Mr. W. Horton moved for a return, showing the progress that had been made by the commissioners for auditing the accounts of the army, from April 1822 to April 1823.—Ordered.

The return was afterwards brought up, and ordered to be

printed. — Adjourned.

House of Lords, July 14.— Earl Grosvenor called the attention of the noble earl to the office of clerk of parliament, wishing to know what ministers had decided regarding that sinecure.

The Earl of Liverpool answered, that whenever the existing freehold interest expired, and the office thereby became vacant, it would not be filled up without the assistance and decision of parliament.

Lord Holland presented a petition from Inverness, in favour of the Scotch jury bill, which was thrown out on a preceding night.

The Limerick local taxes regu-

lation bill was read a third time, and passed.

The report of the Irish tithe bill was received and it was agreed to take the third reading of the bill to-morrow.

On the motion for the third reading of the Irish churches bill,

The question was put and carried without a division; as was also the question that it do pass.

The several bills were then forwarded in their respective stages; after which the house adjourned.

House of Lords, July 15.— Lord Melville moved the third reading of the Scotch commissary courts bill; and after a few remarks from the Eurl of Rosslyn in opposition to it, and from Lord Melville in its favour, it was read a third time, and passed.

The following bills were read a third time, and passed, on the motion of the Earl of Liverpool:—The distillery bill, the Irish tithe composition bill, the law-merchant bill, and the East India trade bill.

The New South Wales jurisdiction bill went through a committee; Earl Bathurst observing that it was intended to take the discussion to-morrow.

The Cork general sessions bill, the Exchequer bills bill, and the Penitentiary bill, also went through committees.

The Earl of Rosslyn presented a petition from certain persons having estates in St. Christopher's and Grenada, against the bill for the consolidation of the laws relating to the abolition of slavery. His lordship observed, that if this measure were persevered in, he should feel it his duty to move that counsel be heard in the committee on behalf of the petitioners.

The

The Lord Chancellor opposed the bill on the ground that it contained much new matter, and was not a mere consolidation of the existing laws. It was only printed yesterday afternoon, and could not be passed in the present session unless the house could sit for at least a month longer than was expected.

The Earl of Westmorland expressed the same opinion.

Lord Calthorpe supported the bill, but said that he should not press it during the present session, as it was resisted by the noble and learned lord.

The Lord Chancellor declared that the bill was any thing rather than a bill of consolidation. There was one most important enactment in it altogether new.

The bill was then ordered to be read a third time this day three months; after which the house adjourned.

House of Lords, July 16.—The Marquis of Londonderry took the oaths and his seat as Earl Vane and Viscount Seaham.

The Earl of Liverpool laid two bags of papers on the table referring to the slave trade.

A person from the Treasury brought up the sixth report of the commissioners on the revenues of Ireland.

Mr. Brogden and others, from the Commons, brought up the amended bills on the East India trade and on the local taxation of Limerick.

The following bills were read a third time, and passed:—The Cork general sessions bill, the East India mutiny bill, the Irish law expenses bill, and the Penitentiary bill.

Lord Ellenborough presented two petitions against the silk-manufacturers bill from 6000 weavers of Coventry and 3000 weavers of Macolesfield.

On the motion of the Earl of Aberdeen, and after a remark from the Earl of Rosslyn, a return was ordered of the number of issues tried by the commissioners of the Scotc. Jury Court during the last three circuits, and in the city of Edinburgh since the 12th of February last.

On the order of the day being moved that the silk manufacturers bill be read a third time.

The Earl of Harrowiy opposed the farther progress of the bill, under the full conviction that it was necessary for the prosperity of the trade. On the whole, he fekt most unwilling to alter a system that in all respects for so many years had been found beneficial. He should sit down by moving "That the bill be read a third time this day three months."

The Earl of Rosslyn suggested that the bill should be read a third time, omitting all the clauses, except that one only which allowed the Spitalfields manufacturers to transfer their capital to other places.

After a few words from Lord Ellenborough, that course was acceded to; and the bill, with its amendments, was ordered to be read a third time to-morrow. — The house then adjourned.

House of Commons, July 16.— Mr. Wellesley presented a petition from Inverness, praying for the repeal of the barilla duties.

Mr. Hume presented a petition from the inhabitants of Notting-ham, praying that the combination

laws

laws repeal bill be referred to a select committee.

The honourable member also presented a petition from John Okeville of Whitehaven, complaining of the operation of the act of the 1st Geo. IV., for the summary punishment of trespassers, and praying for its repeal.

The honourable member also presented a petition from John Murray, stating that the practice of felling Navy timber at unseasonable times of the year had produced the dry-rot, and had been the cause of a very large loss to

the country.

Mr. Huskisson assured the honourable member that this subject had engaged the serious attention of the Navy Board; and various experiments had been made, as to felling timber in the spring and in the winter.—Laid on the table.

Mr. Hobhouse presented a petition from the freeholders and inhabitants of Somersetshire, praying for a radical reform in this house. He concluded by moving—"That the petition be laid on the table and printed;" which were ordered.

Mr. Canning brought up copies of correspondence with foreign powers relative to the slave trade.

— Adjourned.

House of Lords, July 17.—No bishop being ready to read prayers at four o'clock, the commission, which was fixed for to-day, was postponed till to-morrow.

Lord Bexley, in moving the third reading of the silk-manufacturers bill, postponed from yesterday, stated the nature of the amendments that it had been agreed should be introduced. The authority of the magistrates in fixing the amount of wages beween masters and journeymen

was to be preserved; but it had been thought right that the manufacturers should not be confined, as at present, to the employment of their capital within the limits of the metropolis and the county of Middlesex; so much of the Spitalfields acts was therefore to be repealed. A clause had also been prepared to limit to three months the period within which informations or prosecutions under this act should be laid or instituted.

The amendments were agreed to, and the bill was read a third time,

and passed.

Lord Colchester gave notice of a motion for to-morrow, regarding the endowment of charities by Roman Catholics.—Adjourned.

House of Commons, July 17.— A sufficient number of members not being present at four o'clock,

the house adjourned.

House of Lords, July 18.—The house met soon after ten o'clock this morning; when the Commons having been summoned to attend, and the Speaker, Clerks, &c. appearing at the bar, the following bills received the Royal assent by commission: The reciprocity duties bill, the distilleries bill, Lord St. Vincent's annuity bill, East India mutiny bill, passage vessels regulation bill, East India trade bill, marriage law amendment bill, foreign marriages bill, Scotch law commissioners bill, Millbank Penitentiary bill, Irish law expenses bill, Highlands church bill, Cork general sessions bill, Irish church unlawful oaths bill, rates bill. and the Limerick local taxation bill.

The Marquis of Salisbury took the oaths and his seut.

Lord Colchester laid upon the table a petition from the debtors in-

the King's-bench prison in favour of the insolvent act.

Lord Colchester rose, in pursuance of his notice yesterday, to move for certain returns relative to Roman Catholic colleges, chapels, and religious houses in Great Britain. He had observed, he said, in the votes of the other House of Parliament, that a notice had been given not long since, of the intention to bring in a bill for the endowment of institutions for charitable purposes by Roman Catholics. He believed that no such bill had yet been brought in, and he therefore took it for granted that the step would be taken in the next Session; and on this account he wished for certain previous information upon the subject, in order to enable the house wisely to determine whether such a measure ought to be encouraged. wished first to obtain a statement of the number of Roman Catholic chapels in England. They were certainly tolerated by law; but it was now necessary to decide whether it was fit that they should be permanently ingrafted on the institutions of the country: this was certainly a question of some importance. Next he was desirous of knowing the number of Roman Catholic schools, academies, and colleges, protected in the same way by law, and which, by the proposed bill, were to be fixed, as it were, in the soil of the kingdom. The only one of the kind yet endowed by law was at Maynooth, in Ireland; and which, he apprehended, by experience, had lost much of the favour of its original promoters. The third and main topic on which he required information referred to what were termed religious houses, sometimes

also called reputed convents or monasteries. Those who resided in Lancashire, and many others, knew of the establishment of Stonyhurst; and in the county of Kildere there was a similar institution: they were under the management of persons avowing themselves Jesuits: they were the habit of the order, and the principals had attended at Rome on the last election of a general. A noble person had last year felt so strongly the danger of a then-expected large importation of Jesuits into this empire, that he had remonstrated with the Court of Rome against the plan at that time in contemplation of putting all the English and Irish students under the superintendence It was very proof the Jesuits. per that this fact should be known. The house was probably aware that there existed a large and splendid establishment of a similar nature in Somersetshire, the members of which traversed the country, purchasing some converts, and making others. It was, in his lordship's view, necessary to have not only an account of the Roman Catholics belonging to these institutions, but also of those persons who were bound by monastic vows, although not attached to religious houses. Some years ago, when he (Lord Colchester) was Chief Secretary for Ireland, he had had placed in his hand, authentic papers showing that there were in that part of the empire no less than 69 religious houses of various orders-Franciscan, Dominican, Carmel-Nothing could be more ites, &c. important than to consider how far it was the policy of this Protestant government to give these establishments a farther and firmer footing: and to facilitate the decision cision of this question was the object of his motion. The noble lord concluded by moving an address to the Crown to direct the archbishops and bishops to instruct the parochial clergy of their dioceses to procure and transmit information upon the points to which he had adverted.

The Earl of Rosslyn (the motion having been seconded) expressed his regret that this subject had been brought forward in the absence of most of his noble friends, who would have strenuously resisted the proposition; he felt called upon to oppose it. It was admitted that the bill threatened in the House of Commons had not even been introduced; and on the possible contingency that the measure would be brought forward in the next session, it was a little too much to spread anxiety and alarm through the kingdom by the motion just submitted. It was singular, as the noble baron had spoken with much apparent horror of no less than 69 Roman Catholic institutions in Ireland, that his proposition did not extend at all to that part of the empire, though the bill of endowment of which be had spoken was to be introduced by two Irish members, and was intended to apply especially to Ireland. It was known that menastic establishments could not exist by law, and the motion therefore called them "reputed monasteries;" and it was worthy of observation that the parochial clergy were to be required to transmit what, but for the interposed authority of the house, must be looked upon as libels - viz. assertions that such and such institutions were, in fact, monasteries, and contrary to law. He (the Earl of Rosslyn) could not,

of course, impute a bad motive to the noble baron; but the obvious tendency of the agitation of this subject was to excite clamour: and if the motion were carried, disturbance and tumult might be the result before the commencement of the next session of Parliament. He hoped that the noble baron would consent to withdraw his proposition.

While the Earl of Rosslyn was still speaking, a message was brought up from the Commons, returning the New South Wales jurisdiction bill, the Irish tithe composition bill, and the general turupike bill, with the amendments agreed to.

Mr. W. Wynn also brought up a message from the Commons, requesting a conference with the Lords, regarding certain amendments they had made to the bill for the regulation of the Scotch

commissary courts.

Lord Melville moved that the conference be held forthwith in the painted chamber; and this motion being carried, and the Commons attending at the bar informed, the Lord President, the Earls of Shaftesbury and Rosslyn, Lords Melville, Stowell, and Bexley, and the Bishap of London, were appointed to manage it. They went forth accordingly, and on their return,

The Earl of Harrowby reported, that the Commons requested that the Lords would not persevere in their amendments.

Lord Melville moved, that the amendments be abandoned; and the affirmative being carried, a message to that effect was sent to the Commons.

The debate upon Lord Colchester's motion was then resumed.

The Lord Chancellor wished the noble

noble lard to withdraw his motion; and hoped that if a bill was brought in upon the subject next session, it would be brought in, in such time as to afford full opportunity for deliberation.

Lord Colchester withdrew his motion; but said, that he should certainly renew it, if a bill was not brought in, next session.

After a few words from the Earl of Rosslyn, the motion was withdrawn.

A message was then brought up from the Commons, requesting a conference with their lordships upon the Scotch confirmation bill. The conference accordingly took place in the Painted Chamber; and their lordships, on the return of their managers, sent a notice to the House of Commons, that their amendments would not be insisted upon.—Their lordships then adjourned.

House of Commons, July 18.—At ten o'clock this morning, the Speaker having entered the house, the Usher of the Black Rod summoned the house to the House of Lords, to hear the royal assent given by commission to various bills; for which see the Lords.

The Speaker baving returned to the house alone, a message from the House of Lords was announced. The Speaker desired the Sergeant at Arms to request that some honourable member would come in.

Mr. Peter Moore then entered, and the message was received, informing the house that their lordships had agreed to the East India mutiny bill, the Milbank Penitentiary bill, and the Cork county court bill, without amendments; and that they had made certain alterations in the Irish tithe commutation bill, in the New South 1823.

Wales jurisdiction bill, in the silk manufactory bill, and in the Scotch commissaries' court bill, to which they requested the concurrence of this house.

A person from the Treasury attended with papers, which were ordered to be printed.

The house then adjourned until four o'clock in the afternoon.

The house having met at four o'clock.

Mr. P. Moore presented a petition from Mr. Benjamin Welle, recommending various modes of employing labourers, and lessening the poor-rate taxes.—To be printed.

Mr. P. Moore gave three notices for the next session of Parliament:—first, to revive his bill for the repeal of all the combination laws; secondly, to revive a bill which he introduced four years ago, lost by misunderstandings amongst the scientific profession, for the regulation of clock and watch-makers; and thirdly, to bring in a bill for the consolidation of the laws of apprenticeship and to revive the ancient system of apprenticeship under regular indentures.

The Lords' amendments were then agreed to on the Irish tithes commutation bill, and on the New South Wales jurisdiction bill.

On the motion that the Lords', amendments to the Scotch commissaries' court be agreed to,

Lord A. Hamilton objected, on the ground that their lordships had changed the day on which the repeal of the fees was to take place, from the first of January to the twenty-fifth of March. This, he contended, would be a violation of one of the most important privileges of the house; the bill, relating as it did, to an impost on the subject, must be considered as 2 E a money bill; their lordsbips' alteration would have the effect of keeping that impost in existence three months longer than the house had intended, and for this reason he submitted the alterations could not be agreed to.

The Speaker was of opinion, that as the receipt of fees was already established by the authority of this house, the alterations made in the House of Lords as to the period at which they should cease was not in violation of the orders.

A short discussion ensued, in which Mr. J. P. Grant, Mr. Calcraft, Mr. Abercromby, and Mr. Bright supported the objection; and Mr. Peel, Mr. K. Douglas, Mr. Croker, Mr. Cunning, and Mr. Wynn spoke in favour of the amendments. In conclusion, the amendments relative to the receipt of fees were negatived. other amendments were agreed to.

A committee was then appointed to draw up the reasons on account of which the Commons dissented from the amendments of the Lords; and they proceeded to the Speaker's chamber for that purpose.

Mr. Peel moved that the Lords' amendments to the Scotch confirmation bill should be taken into consideration. Certain ments relative to fees, similar to those which had been introduced into the Scotch commissaries bill, were negatived; and a committee was appointed to draw up the reasons of the Commons' dissent.

Mr. W. Wynn stated, that the committee had come to the following resolution relative to certain of the Lords' amendments in the Scotch commissaries bill:--

"That the Commons could not agree to the cessation of the fees on the latter day, and that they did not feel it necessary to state any other reasons for their determination."

A similar resolution was adopted with respect to the amendments in the Scotch confirmation bill.

The members were then nominated for managing the conference with the Lords in the Painted Chamber. On their return, Mr. Wynn acquainted the house that the Lords would communicate the result of the conferences by messengers of their own.

Shortly after, the Masters in Chancery announced that their Lordships did not insist on the amendments from which the Com-

mons had dissented.

Mr. Douglas presented a petition from the legislature of Tobago, complaining of the distressed state of the island.—Laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

Alderman Wood presented a petition from John Wilfred Parkins, praying that the house would inquire by what authority the Corporation of London sold the office of Secondary.—Laid on the table. -Adjourned.

House of Lords, July 19.—Parliament was this day prorogued by commission, his Majesty not deeming it advisable to risk the possible consequences to his health, of going through the fatigue of the ceremony.

The Commissioners were the Lord Chancellor, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Earl of Harrowby, the Earl of Liverpool, and the Earl of Westmorland.

The House of Commons were summoned to the bar at two o'clock The commission for precisely. giving the Royal assent to certain bills, and for proroguing the Par-

liament,

liament, was then read; and the several bills having received the Royal assent, the Lord Chancellor proceeded to deliver the following speech:—

" My Lords and Gentlemen,

"We are commanded by his Majesty, in releasing you from your attendance in Parliament, to express to you his Majesty's acknowledgments for the zeal and assiduity wherewith you have applied yourselves to the several objects which his Majesty recommended to your attention at the opening of the session.

"His Majesty entertains a confident expectation that the provisions of internal regulation, which you have adopted with respect to Ireland, will, when carried into effect, tend to remove some of the evils which have so long afflicted that part of the United Kingdom.

"We are commanded to assure you, that you may depend upon the firm but temperate exercise of those powers which you have intrusted to his Majesty, for the suppression of violence and outrage in that country, and for the protection of the lives and properties of his Majesty's loyal subjects.

"It is with the greatest satisfaction that his Majesty is enabled to contemplate the flourishing condition of all branches of our commerce and manufactures, and the greatest abatement of those difficulties which the agricultural interest has so long and so severely suffered.

"Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

"We have it in command from his Majesty to thank you for the supplies which you have granted for the service of the year, and to assure you that he has received the sincerest pleasure from the relief which you have been enabled to afford his people, by a large reduction of taxes.

" My Lords and Gentlemen,

"His Majesty has commanded us to inform you, that he continues to receive from all foreign powers the strongest assurances of their friendly disposition towards

this country.

"Deeply as his Majesty still regrets the failure of his earnest endeavours to prevent the interruption of the peace of Europe, it affords him the greatest consolation that the principles upon which he has acted, and the policy which he has determined to pursue, have been marked with your warm and cordial concurrence, as consonant with the interests, and satisfactory to the feelings, of his people."

Parliament was then prorogued to Tuesday the 30th of September.

House of Commons, July 19.— The Speaker entered the house at five minutes after two o'clock. Prayers having been read, the Usher of the Black Rod summoned this house to the House of Lords, to hear the Royal assent given by commission to certain bills, and also to hear his Majesty's speech and the prorogation of Parliament by commission.

The Speaker then left the house, and returned in about a quarter of an hour; when he read the King's speech, and informed the members present that the parlia-

ment was prorogued.

## CHAPTER VII.

State of the Country external and internal—Agriculture, Manufactures, Commerce, &c.—State of Ireland.

THROUGHOUT this year, Great Britain has followed a line of conduct with respect to her foreign relations, which to her is truly novel, although not upon that account improvident or unwise. has been accustomed generally to take the lead in all that is stirring and military-the first and most active of the belligerent powers: but this has been a year of calm unmoved neutrality. Had she lifted her arm, the whole world might now have been convulsed by war: but the path she has chosen has been the means of preserving the major part in peace. Nor need it be feared that the cause of universal liberty will be injured by this reserve: there is a principle abroad in the earth which not all the power of all the tyrants it contains can quell; every nation will in its turn conquer its own freedom; and who else should fight for it? The termination of the Spanish revival is but a hollow tranquillity; and the warmest friend of liberty need not fear, that yet again the slame will burst forth, and consume the fetters and the oppressors who forged them.

The internal state of the empire has been decidedly prosperous. The manufacturer has had constant employment; and if his gains have not been great, they have been steady and continual, which is of far greater importance. In commerce, the shipping have found

themselves able to compete and to surpass other countries; and generally, although there may have been less of commercial speculation, there has been more sure and regular trade. In finance there has been a repeal of two millions of taxes,—and of those peculiar taxes which come home to the family of every man. But what more certainly marks a degree of at least comparative prosperity, is the general tranquillity of the country. We have had no Manchester or Spa-fields meetings—no military called into action; but men have been content to follow their own callings, internally satisfied with their country, and with the government which directs it. The agricultural interest alone have been unsettled and depressed; but while the war lasted their day was a long and a prosperous one, and they find it no easy matter to return to the point from whence they set out thirty years ago: yet the proposition does not appear to contain any great mixture of injustice.

The prosperous state of the finances of the country is not less singular than gratifying. From the amazing sums which appear in the shape of capital, none are more extraordinary in result than those arising out of the Savings Banks. The amount of their deposits in April last was 7,323,179/. The number of depositors in the Provident

Provident Bishopsgate Bank to 31st March, 1823, was 7320 persons; and the amount of its deposits 186,345L being 25L 9s. 1d. each depositor upon the average. Adopting this as the general average throughout the kingdom, if the sum of 7,323,1791. be divided by 25l. 9s. 1d. it follows that 288,195 persons are interested therein! which gives 4237 persons more than the number of stockholders in the government funds! But as the proportion of 25l. 9s. 1d. is probably much higher than belongs to the country depositors in Savings Banks, the number will be much greater. has been remarked that from "a statement of the imports and exports for the last forty years, it appears, that on an average of the five years 1798-1802, when the taxes of Great Britain averaged only 33,670,195l. per annum, and the pauper rates less than 4.000,000l. per annum, the quantity of merchandise imported annually was 29,578,490l. and the quantity of British produce and manufactures exported annually 23,840,865l.; whilst in 1822, with a taxation of about 55,000,000%. and a pauper rate of 7,761,441l. the British produce and manufactures exported amounted in quantity to no less than 43,558,490l. nearly double the quantity of the former period; but, on the other hand, the imports were actually less than on an average of the five years 1798-1802, having been only 29,401,807l.; and that the real value of the 23,840,865*l*. per annum of British produce and manufactures, exported in the five years 1798-1802, was declared at 40,322,3811. whilst the real value of the 43,558,490l. exported in the

last year, was declared at only 36,176,897*l*. or in the proportion of only 19,800,700*l*. instead of 40,322,381*l*. for a quantity of 23,840,865*l*. as on an average of the five years 1798-1802."

The session of parliament was one of extraordinary labour: and the country had reason to congratulate itself on the conciliatory, candid, and manly conduct of the Secretary for Foreign Affairs and his coadjutors, so different from preceding examples, and so much more agreeable to the spirit of the Two hundred and sixtynine bills received the Royal assent -ninety-six being public, and one hundred and seventy-three private. Of the public bills there were twenty-five which related to the revenue—the remodelling of duties on particular goods, regulating the collection, &c. Six acts were for altering and mitigating in certain cases the severity of the penal code; six or seven for the better regulation and improvement of trade; two were for the repeal of taxes; twenty-five of the public bills had reference to Ireland: six or seven to Scotland. New South Wales, our North American, our East and West India Colonies, had seven or eight acts. The other public bills, not enumerated under these heads, were of a general nature, and did not apply particularly to any one part of the empire.

The number of petitions presented to the House of Commons was one thousand seven hundred and sixty.—Among the public petitions there were—praying for the reduction of taxation generally, or for the repeal of particular duties, on coals, stone, and slate carried coastwise, 235; complaining of agricultural distress, 44; for the abolition

abolition of slavery in our colonies, 223: against the insolvent debtors act, 105 - there were 2 for its continuance, and the execution of its provisions to uncertificate bankrupts; against the marriage act, passed the session before, 22; against the Roman Catholic claims. 108; in favour of the Roman Catholic claims, 3; in favour of a commutation of tithes, 9; against any alteration in the tithe-laws. 2. The number of returns, accounts, and estimates of various kinds, was upwards of nine bundred. number of members who took the oaths and their seats during this session was thirty-seven. were, in the course of the session, twenty select committees appointed on various matters. The principal of these were the committees on the poor returns; on foreign · trade; on the game laws; on the employment of the Irish poor; on the means of more speedily recovering small debts: on the laws of factor and agent, and their effects on commerce; and on the state of the Penitentiary at Millbank.

The picture which Ireland presents is a wilderness of bigotry, superstition, anarchy, and outrage. It is hoped that the bill for commutation of tithes will do something towards tranquillizing the country, or at least prove the sister kingdom wishes to do so; the reform in the magistracy—the extension of education, it is hoped, will still farther forward this object. Ignorance is a great cause of the misery of the country; and neither the Catholic nor the Pro-

testant are free from its enslaving influence. Thus, while the impostor Prince Hohenloe is blinding the Catholic with his cures, the Orangeman sees his miracle for supporting the sacred character of his unhallowed orgies, in the vegetation of the flowers that deck the table of debauch on giving his ruling toast. It is gravely asserted that on one of these occasions, lately, a lily actually burst out into bloom!

In the East, affairs have proceeded with regularity and tranquillity. In the West the infernal character and consequences of slavery have been evinced in insurrections, and in cruel, and no doubt in some instances prosecutions. An attempt was made to throw the odium of the insurrection in Demerara upon the Methodists; but this report originated among men who are opposed to the Methodists, or to any who are anxious to raise the debased Negro to his share of the privileges which his Creator intended him to enjoy.

At Sierra Leone, great exertions have been made to put down the slave-trade, which notwithstanding is carried on to a lamentable extent.—New South Wales is remarkably prosperous.

Having given the original documents from which our short abstract is drawn, we refer to them, considering it the duty of a Registrator rather to preserve materials for the future historian, than to be an historian himself.

## CHAPTER VIII.

State of France, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Russia, the East, South America, &c.

WE do not, after the example of some, rely upon the words of Bonaparte as upon the predictions of an infallible oracle; but an observation which he is reported to have made seems corroborated by events-the incorrigibility of the "The Bourbons," Bourbons. said, "after all they have endured, have neither learned nor forgotten any thing." In what particular are the present generation at all more enlightened, more liberal, or less selfish and treacherous, than the former. In the beginning of the present year, 1823, few considered it possible that France could venture upon such an unhallowed crusade as the invasion of Spain. Louis XVI. sent his soldiers to learn a lesson of liberty in America, but Louis XVIII. sends his to aid the cause of slavery in Spain; and that noble country has the yoke once more placed upon her neck. Her liberators were few: they spoke aloud for freedom, and their voice was heard; it was hoped by many to be the voice of the nation, but it was the cry of a small and enlightened part only. They have since fought and fallen. There were few to aid them: apathy had seized the mass of the people; and the heroes have met with the death of martyrs.

The Holy Alliance, that most unholy of all alliances, in unison

with its worthy coadjutors, superstition and ignorance, have formed a confederacy to keep tyranny upon her throne, and the soul in chains at her feet: but a calm spectator, in a free country like this our safe and happy island, may view their combined efforts unmoved; the chains will prevail; and the feeble powers who would attempt to place a barrier against the rising tide will be overwhelmed and swept away by its fury.

France, in the present instance, was made the tool of the other Allies; Russia, Austria, and Prussia stoodaloof; but had England joined the contest, it would have been the probable cause of calling into action the barbarians of the North, and of deluging Europe once more with blood and devastation; and that, too, for the rescue of a people, the great majority of which do not seem ripe for that bright summer of freedom, to whom a few of the noblest among them were striving to awaken them.

The following observations are extracted from a well-written tract upon the Spanish question, which appeared in the "Pamphleteer," written, as its predictions will prove, before the decision of the faint struggle:—

"But what is the nature of this

revolutionary spirit which renders Spain an object of jealousy and apprehension to surrounding nations? It is not the desolating fury of Jacobinism tearing down the sanctuaries of religion and the law: for the national Church has been made co-existent with the new constitution, and the law has gained the new support of public opinion;nor is it a war against the rank and riches of the state, against security of property, or political distinction; for every order is alike protected under the law. It is not a new attempt of visionary and speculative men to throw the elements of society into confusion, for the purpose of re-modelling them by rule and compass: for the constitution is that originally framed under the auspices of Great Britain, according to the fundamental laws and recognised institutions of the Spanish monarchy. It is not a proselyting spirit which sends its missionaries to preach new doctrines, and sow the seeds of mutual hatred amongst the subjects of other states; for it renounces all attempt at foreign interference, and possesses neither language nor literature to diffuse its doctrines. It bears no resemblance in any feature to those principles which agitated Europe at the beginning of the revolutionary war, except the one of change—it is simply the movement by which a generous nation endeavours to attain her true position amongst civilized communities. Her neighbours, once as far inferior as they now surpass her, have risen to eminence in science, arts, and literature, in agriculture and manufactures, in policy and legislation—in every thing which enlarges the intellect, increases the enjoyments, and guaran-

ties the security of men:-but her institutions have prevented her from running the same race—she has been held back like a solitary ship by an unwieldy anchor, while her companions of the fleet are proudly borne along the tide to wealth and glory. Is it criminal to feel her degradation, and emulate the prosperity thus presented to her view?—She shows no jealous hostility to her precursors, nor pursues unwarrantable means of following in their career—her conduct is open and unequivocal, founded on the indisputable right of an independent nation. respects the established institutions of every state, and upholds her own;-the law is omnipotent in judging the excesses of the passions;-no spirit of revenge is exhibited in the moments of triumph and exultation, though many violations of faith have arisen to awaken it ;-the humanities of civilised warfare are exercised towards the vanquished: there is no general confiscation, no proscription, no licence amongst a victorious soldiery, no door closed on reconciliation;—the majority of the people have declared their will, and the minority are required to This is the spirit which "threatens the security of surrounding nations, and may ultimately endanger the tranquillity of Europe."

But the Inquisition, which formed an integral part of the old government, is abolished; the overgrown monastic establishments have been pruned; the extensive right of commonage, by which a few corporations and individuals were empowered to hold extensive territories in a state of waste and depopulation, has been modified.

Here

Here are the three measures which have given rise to the regency of Urgel, the army of the Faith, and the decision of Verona. Those sovereigns of the Continent who professed the most liberal sentiments as individuals, at the peace uphold those institutions which watched the progress of that contraband of knowledge and information, which must sooner or later curtail their power. They feel their true position, and tremble at every agitation of the public mind, like Pluto in the combat of the gods, lest the horrid secrets of his dominions should be displayed to earth and Heaven.

But will the British public reprobate the conduct of the Spanish authorities, because they have thought fit to remove those abuses which served as a reproach to every Christian in his intercourse with Pagans or Mussulmen, and to every subject of a monarchy when conversing with Republicans? Surely the doctrines of Christianity, as preached in these dominions, will never sanction the invasion of any country for the purpose of maintaining the atrocities of the Spanish inquisition; nor will the professors of the reformed religion lament the extinction of those licentious seminaries of criminal indulgence, whose notoriety obliged their ancestors to secede from the Church; nor will the benevolent philanthropist who glories in the. equal privileges of rich and poor in his own country, complain that the worst species of forest law, which subjected whole districts to the caprice of an individual, has been abolished.

But let us suppose for a moment that the tendency of the pub-

lic measures in Spain is as hostile to other nations as the enemies of the new order of things pretend. Is there any probability that the whole power of the united Sovereigns will be able to subdue the spirit which enacts them? of Paris, have never ceased to have seen it struggling with obstacles, dangers, sufferings, despair, and death; -its votaries subdued by foreign tyranny, abandoned by their allies, persecuted by the sovereign who owed his throne to their exertions; - Porlier executed in the North, Elio revelling in the South; the scaffold raised in each province, and spreading its ominous shadow over every cottage of the realm; the unresisted satellites of bigotry and despotic power stalked again abroad in all the pageantry of the middle ages, and the very mob, corrupted by its ignorance, applauding its oppressors :-- yet the same spirit lived. and was transmitted from the dying to their offspring, like those imperishable traditions which record the former glories of a declining people. Let Spain then be invaded.

> Can the divided ministry of France, obliged to struggle with the Chambers and the press, direct the operations of the war like the genius of Napoleon, single in its conceptions, unfettered in the disposition of its means, and holding in complete subjection the tongue, the pen, the wealth and services of every Frenchman? Will their courtier generals prove as efficient as those marshals who owed their rank and titles to a tried pre-emi-Can their young nence? talions stand the disheartening warfare of the stiletto and the knife, like the flinty veterans inured to the costume and warlike habits

habits of all nations? Will the cry of Waterloo and Vive le ·Roi excite their courage like that of Austerlitz and Jena, and the fortunes of Napoleon; or will the desire of replacing the derided relics of the Spanish altars be as powerful a moral stimulus as the ambition of rendering France the mistress of all nations?

But Napoleon's genius, and his unfettered power, his Marshals, veteran troops, and animating war cries, aided by a moral sentiment of the most powerful influence on the minds of Frenchmen—failed. They could not enforce even a temporary abandonment of those free principles which had awakened the long-slumbering Spaniards.

Let us not refer for subjects of indignant declamation to the corruption of courts, at any former period, or the arrogance of commonwealths; let the acts of France under the Convention, the Directory, and the military tyranny be forgotten—a fruitful theme remains in the pretensions of that oligarchy who now assume the sovereignty of the European states.

But the independence of Great Britain is no less involved in the issue of this question, than her national honour. There cannot be two codes of public law in Europe-if nations bitherto considered independent be formed into one great federal republic, directed by hereditary monarchs, as its executive council, Great Britain in common with the rest, must send her envoy periodically to their appointed congresses, to bring back a rescript for the management of her If their authority internal affairs. be legitimate, why should we refuse to obey it? if not legitimate, for what reason should Spain be

subject to its controul? Can a homage be exacted from one European state, and a privilege be conceded to another, according to the custom of the Turkish government to its several provinces? If not, by what means are we secure, that those who expostulate upon the conduct of Riego may not also remonstrate upon that of Hunt?

Not only is the honour and independence of this country prospectively endangered by a mistaken view of this subject, but her character as a leading power has been affected by the proceedings at the Congress of Verona. While our foreign minister attended on the sovereigns to sanction their aggressions upon the territory of their neighbours, and to dispose of the defenceless portions of Europe at their caprice and suggestion, we were honoured with the respect and attention due to our commanding station. But when it appeared that public opinion was beginning to set strongly against their policy, and that a British Minister could no longer act in their pretensions, unison with these august allies began to change their tone, and to intimate in terms tolerably unequivocal that the concurrence of Great Britain was not an essential preliminary to their hostile movements against other states. The note of the Marquis of Londonderry was disregarded, and even the personal character of the Duke of Wellington has been unable to give effect to the remonstrances of his government against the intended system of aggression.

It should be carefully borne in mind by all who enter upon the consideration of this question, that the grand alliance was formed by

the

the influence of this country, for a specific object—to overthrow the tyranny of Napoleon over independent governments. It was not because the people of France thought fit to call this despot to the throne, that we lavished such unbeard-of treasures upon the Continental Sovereigns, and enabled them to arm and clothe the barbarous hordes of their remote dominions; it was because no state could reckon upon its internal security, nor venture to renew pacific relations, while a power existed exempt from the control of public law, which held itself absolved from treaties when they no longer served its interest or ambition, and sent its mandates to sovereigns accompanied by a force prepared to invade their dominions. Now, if this grand alliance, having gained the object of its union, by rallying the public opinion of all nations round its standard, shall forget its purpose, and attempt to constitute itself a power exempt from the control of law; if after having roused the indignation of its subjects by detailed accounts of seizures, exiles and proscriptions, for political opinions, it proceed itself in the same course, and wage a war against improvement, in whatever corner of the globe it may present itself, will not the names of Palm, and Wright, and Enghien, pass again from mouth to mouth, and rouse the deluded people of the Continent to a true sense of their condition?

It is the interest of Great Britain, of France, of Europe, of the world, that the pretensions of the sovereigns at the Congress of Verona should be crushed by public indignation—that free governments should be obliged, by the

unanimous voice of their subjects. to take a stand upon the broad principles of public law, and to unite in defence of the menaced victims of a lawless authority. There is a power of barbarism and power of civilization now in Europe, prepared for rancorous hostility, if events should bring them into too close contact: there are materials ready to excite them both; there is ambition, too. abroad: a contest once begun may compromise the happiness of the existing generation. It is the duty of Great Britain to prevent it, and she has the power to do so. dynasty of France is not yet firmly seated upon its throne; it has a feeble scion to uphold it, and there is a pretender in the hands and under the control of its natural enemy. The Austrian dominions contain the seeds of civil war within them, and even at this moment require the force of one portion to be employed in the coercion of another.

The Prussian states consist of many conquered provinces, which still retain their former predilections, and have not yet begun to coalesce with their victorious fellow-subjects: the middle classes are known to seek a change of institutions; and the seminaries cannot be prohibited from instilling the detested doctrines of the Spanish Constitutionalists into the minds of the rising population. Russia is still barbarous, and secure; she alone may act with impunity, as executioner of the sentences of death promulgated against the people of the Peninsula.

But this bright prospect of the insufficiency of France for the task, the opinion which was entertained tained by so many, ignoraut of the true state of Spain, has been mournfully negatived. Let us hope that future revivals, to which the Spanish tyrant is now goading his people, may not be far distant, and that another time the nation will profit by their present lesson of Bourbon faith. Portugal has proved herself as dead to liberty as Spain.

In Germany the Holy Alliance has been equally indefatigable in putting down the cause of rational freedom as in the Peninsula. The German sovereigns have decreed the suppression of a journal published in the kingdom of Wirtemburg, and forced the sovereign of the country to comply with their commands. This paper is the "German Observer," which had dared, in a country independent of them by right, to lean towards the principles that are alone worthy of the age, and that must by and by be successful; and against Switzerland, also, their threats have operated to put down the freedom of the press there, and to force the Republic to exclude from its territory all who may not be deemed proper residents by the great These sacrifices on the courts. part of the Helvetic government will not go far in securing its integrity when the occupation of the country by the armies of the Allied Powers may be an object desirable for the purposes of ambition or spoliation. The Swiss have no guarantee for real independence beyond the nature of their country, their arms, and their spirit of independence; and, ere long, they may be called upon to make use of them.

Italy has but little weight in the affairs of Europe, except as a fair boon for others to fight for; the death of the Pope, which a few centuries back would have produced so much agitation, is now scarcely heard beyond the limit of his own shorn dominions.

The King of Prussia has length bestowed upon his subjects the shadow at least of a representative government, by the establishment of provincial assemblies, to be formed on the basis of landed property. The provincial estates are to be the legal organ of the various subordinate estates of each province. The king will cause to be sent to each of these assemblies for discussion, those projects of laws which concern that particular province. So long as no general assembly is convened, the king will also send to the provincial assemblies such general projects of laws as relate to changes in taxation, and the rights of persons and property. He will further receive from them petitions and remonstrances; and will leave them to decide upon the commercial affairs of their respective provinces, subject to his approbation. however, be wholly at his irresponsible discretion to summon the eatates general when he shall think it necessary; and should this seldom, or never, happen, the provincial assemblies will have no means of intercourse, unity, or effectual Still, though the remonstrance. measure is thus, and in other ways very imperfect, we hail it as the beginning of a better system than that which has hitherto prevailed. The discussions in the assemblies, they will be perhaps though greatly shackled and unduly influenced, must gradually work new reformations, and enlighten the minds of the people. The

The kingdom of the Netherlands presents a peaceful and hopeful scene. Enjoying, like ourselves, the blessings of a limited hereditary monarchy, and the rights of freedom and national representation, secured to it by the constitution of 1814, it continues to advance in public security and The king opened the prosperity. two chambers with a speech, congratulating them on the friendly footing maintained with foreign states; the increasing happiness of the people; the progress of education, both among the rich and the poor; the flourishing state of the fine arts; the blessings of a bountiful harvest; and the hopeful condition of the public finances.

In Germany generally there is an incipient spirit from which great things may be looked for.

- Russia, ever ambitious grasping, put forward in this year extravagant claims of maritime empire, which she has since abandoned; the Greeks are successful and will be free. Turkey is on the In South America, liberty and empire are springing up; it is the wish of the Holy Allies to extend the benefit of their interference to crush them. It is to be hoped they will have work very different from the trifling of Spain. In North America the United States appear generally prospe-

## PUBLIC PAPERS.

The three Official Notes sent by Russia, Austria, and Prussia to their respective Ministers at Madrid, preparatory to the French Invasion.

Despatch from the Count De Nesselrode to the Chargé d'Affaires of Russia at Madrid, dated Verona, the 14th (26th) Nov. 1822.

THE Sovereigns and the Plenipotentiaries assembled at Verona, in the firm 'intention 'of consolidating more and more the peace which Europe enjoys, and to prevent whatever might tend to compromise that state of general tranquillity, were led, from the first moment of their assembling, to direct their auxious and serious attention towards an ancient monarchy, which had been agitated with internal commotions during two years, and which could not but excite, in an equal degree, the solicitude, the interest, and the apprehension of other Powers.

When in the month of March, 1820, some perjured soldiers turned their arms against their Sovereign and their country, to impose upon Spain laws which the public reason of Europe, enlightened by the experience of all ages, stamped with its highest disapprobation, the Allied Cabinets, and particularly that of St. Petesburgh, hastened to point out the calamities that would follow in the train of institutions which consecrated military revolt, by the very mode of their establishment.

These fears were but too soon and too thoroughly justified. They

are no longer theories nor principles which are now to be examined and approved. Facts speak aloud; and what feeling must they not inspire in every Spaniard who yet cherishes a love for his King and country? What regret must be experienced at the ascendancy of the men who have brought about the Spanish Revolution?

At the moment when a deplorable success crowned their enterprise, the integrity of the Spanish Monarchy was the object of the Spanish Government. The whole nation participated in the wishes of his Catholic Majesty; Europe had offered him an amicable intervention to restore for him, on solid bases, the authority of the mother country over distant regions which formerly constituted her wealth and her strength. couraged, by a fatal example, to persevere in rebellion, the provinces where it had already broken out found in the events of the menth of March the best apology for disobedience; and those which had yet remained faithful immediately separated from the mother country, justly afraid of the despotism which was about to oppress its unfortunate sovereign, and a people whom rash innovations condemned to traverse the whole range of revolutionary disasters.

To the disorders of America were soon added the evils that

are inseparable from a state of things where the conservative principle of social order had been forgotten.

Anarchy appeared in the train of revolution; disorder in the train of anarchy. Long years of tranquil possession soon coased to be a sufficient title to property; the most sacred rights were soon disputed; ruinous loans, and contributions unceasingly renewed, soon attacked both public wealth and the fortunes of private individuals. As was the case at that epoch, the bare recollection of which makes Europe shudder, religion was despoiled of her patrimony; the throne, of popular respect; the royal dignity was outraged; and authority was transferred to assemblies where the blind passions of the multitude seized upon the reins of government. Lastly, and to complete the parallel with those days of calamity so unhappily reproduced in Spain, on the 7th of July blood was seen to flow in the palace of the King, and a civil war raged throughout the Peninsula.

During nearly three years, the Allied Powers continued to flatter themselves that the Spanish character—that character so constant and so generous when the safety of the country was in quession, and lately so heroic when it struggled against a power produced by revolution—would show itself at last, even in the men who had had the misfortune to betray the noble recollections which Spain might proudly recall to every nation in Europe. They flattered themselves that the Government of his Catholic Majesty, undeceived by the first lessons of a fatal experience, would adopt measures, if

not to stop by one common effort the numerous calamities which were bursting upon them from all sides, at least to lay the foundations of a remedial system, and to secure gradually to the throne its legitimate rights and its necessary prerogatives; also to give to subjects adequate protection, and to property indispensable guaran-But those hopes have been tees. utterly falsified. The lapse of time has only brought with it fresh injustice; violence has been increased; the number of victims has frightfully augmented; and Spain has already seen more than one warrior, and more than one faithful citizen, hurried to the scaffold.

It is thus that the revolution of the 9th March went on, day by day, hastening the ruin of the Spanish Monarchy, when two particular events occurred which excited the most serious attention of Fo-

reign Governments.

In the midst of a people to whom devotion to their Kings is an hereditary sentiment—a people who for six successive years shed the noblest blood to recover their legitimate Monarch—that Monarch and his family were reduced to a state of notorious and almost absolute captivity. His brothers, compelled to justify themselves, were daily menaced with the dungeon or the axe; and imperious commands forbade him, with his dying wife, to quit the capital.

On the other hand, in imitation of the revolutions of Naples and Piedmont, which the Spanish conspirators constantly represent as their own work, we hear them announce that their plans of subversion have no limits. In a neighbouring country they strove with unremitting perseverance to encountry

rage tumults and rebellion. In more distant states they laboured to create accomplices: the activity of their proselytism was every where felt, and every where it produced the same disasters.

Such conduct would, of necessity, excite general reprobation. Those Cabinets which sincerely desired the good of Spain, intimated during two years their sentiments, by the nature of the relations which they maintain with its government. France saw berself obliged to confide to an army the protection of her frontiers; and probably she will be compelled also to confide to it the task of putting an end to those provocations which have rendered it necessary. Spain herself has rebelled. in some parts, against a system which is foreign to her babits, to her known loyalty, and to her entirely monarchical traditions.

In this state of things, the Emperor, our august master, has determined to take a step which cannot leave to the Spanish nation any doubt as to his true intentions nor as to the sincerity of the wishes he entertains in her behalf.

It is to be feared that the dangers arising from vicinity, which are always imminent, those which menace the Royal Family, and the just complaints of a neighbouring state, will terminate in creating between him and Spain the most grave embarrassments.

It is this painful extremity which his Majesty would avoid, if possible; but, as long as the King is not in a condition to express freely his will; as long as a deplorable order of things facilitates the efforts of the artists of revolutions, who are united by one common bond with those of the other countries of Europe, to trouble its repose,—is it in the power of the Emperor, is it in the power of any Monarch, to ameliorate the relations of the Spanish Government with Foreign Powers?

On the other hand, how easy would it be to attain this essential end, if the King recovered, with his perfect liberty, the means of putting an end to civil war, of preventing a foreign war, and of surrounding himself with the most enlightened and the most faithful of his subjects, in order to give to Spain those institutions which her wants and her legitimate wishes require.

Then, free and tranquil, she could not but inspire Europe with the security which she would herself enjoy; and then, too, the Powers which now protest against the conduct of her Government would be eager to renew with her relations traly amicable, and founded upon mutual good-will.

It is a long time since Russia announced these grand truths to the attention of Spaniards. Never had their patriotism higher destinies to fulfil than at this mo-What glory for them to conquer revolution a second time, and to prove that it can never exercise dominion in a country where ancient virtues, an indelible attachment to principles which guarantee the duration of society, and respect for a holy religion, will always triumph over anarchical doctrines, and the artifices employed to extend their fatal influence. Already one portion of the nation has declared itself. It only remains for the other portion to unite instantly with their King, to deliver Spain ---to save it---to assign it, in the great European family, a place

so much the more honourable, because it would be snatched, as in 1814, from the disastrous triumph of military usurpation.

In directing you, M. le Comte, to communicate to the Ministers of his Most Catholic Majesty, the sentiments developed in this despatch, his Majesty is willing to believe, that neither his intentions, nor those of his allies, will be misinterpreted. In vain will malevolence endeavour to represent them in the light of foreign interference, which seeks to dictate laws to Spain.

To express the desire of seeing a protracted misery terminate, to snatch from the same yoke an unhappy Monarch and one the first -among European nations, to stop the effusion of blood, and to faci-·litate the re-establishment of an order of things at once wise and national, is certainly not attacking the independence of a country, nor establishing a right of intervention against which any power whatever would have reason to protest. his Imperial Majesty had other views, it would rest with him and his Allies to let the Spanish revolution complete its work. Very soon, every germ of prosperity. of wealth, and of power, would be destroyed in the Peniusula; and if the Spanish nation can suppose these hostile designs to be entertained, they should look for the proof of their existence in the indifference and the inaction of the Allies.

The reply that will be made to the present declaration must decide questions of the very highest importance. Your instructions from this day will point out the determination that you are to make, if the dispositions of the public authority at Madrid reject the means

1823.

which are offered for securing to Spain a future tranquillity, and an imperishable glory.

Despatch of M. the Prince de Metternich, to the Charge d'Affaires of Austria at Madrid, dated Verona, Dec. 14th, 1822,

The situation in which the Spanish monarchy finds itself, in consequence of the events which have transpired in that State during the last two years, was an object of too paramount importance not to have seriously occupied the attention of the Cabinets assembled The Emperor, our at Verona. august master, has desired that you should be informed of the view which he takes of this momentous question; and it is to fulfil his desire that I address to you the present despatch.

The revolution of Spain was judged for us from its origin. Conformably to eternal decrees, good can never arise to States, any more than to individuals, from a disregard of the first duties imposed upon man in social order: the amelioration of the condition of subjects should not be commenced by criminal illusions, by perverting opinion, and by misleading the conscience; and military revolt can never form the basis of a happy and durable government.

The revolution of Spain, considered solely in regard to the destructive influence which it has exercised over the kingdom which has experienced it, would be an event worthy the undivided attention and interest of foreign sovereigns, for the prosperity or the ruin of one of the most interesting States of Europe cannot be in their eyes an indifferent alternative; only the enemies of Spain, if possibly

2 F sh

she have any, could be capable of regarding, unmoved, the convulsions which prey upon ber. A just repugnance, however, to meddle with the internal affairs of an independent nation, would perhaps influence these Sovereigns not to pronounce on the situation of Spain, if the evil operated by her revolution was concentrated, or could be concentrated, within her territorial limits. But this is not the case: this revolution, even before it arrived at maturity, had been the cause of great disasters in other States; it was this revolution which, by the contagion of its principles and of its example, and by the intrigues of its principal partisans, created the Revolutions of Naples and Piedmont; it was this revolution which would have excited insurrections throughout Italy, menaced France, and compromised Germany, but for the intervention of the powers which preserved Europe from this new conflagration. Every where the destructive means employed in Spain, to prepare and consummate the revolution, have served as a model to those who flattered themsolves that they were paving the way to new conquests. Every where the Spanish Constitution has become the rallying point and the war-whoop of a faction, combined alike against the security of thrones and the repose of subjects.

The dangerous impulse which the Spanish revolution had given to the whole South of Europe, placed Austria under the painful necessity of having recourse to measures which ill accorded with the pacific course which she would desire invariably to pursue. She has witnessed a portion of her do-

٠. .

minions surrounded by sedition, fettered by incendiary plots, and on the very eve of being attacked by conspirators, whose first efforts were directed against the frontiers. It was only by great efforts and great sacrifices that Austria succeeded in re-establishing tranquillity in Italy, and in defeating projects, the success of which would have been any thing but indifferent as to the fate of ber own provinces. Besides, in the questions relative to Spain, his Imperial Majesty cannot do otherwise than support the same principles which he has always so decidedly manifested. Even in the absence of any direct danger to the people confided to his care, the Emperor will never hesitate to disavow and reprove what he thinks false and culpable, in regard to the general interests of human society. Faithful to the system of preservation and peace, for the maintenance of which he has contracted inviclable engagements with his august Allies, his Majesty will never cease to consider disorder and subversions, whatever portion of Europe may be the victim of them, as an object of deep solicitude for all governments; and whenever the Emperor can make his views manifest amid the tumult of these deplorable crises, he shall think that he has fulfilled a duty with which no consideration can induce him to dispense. It would be difficult for me to believe, M. le Comte, that the declared judgment of his Imperial Majesty on the events which are passing in Spain can be misunderstood or misinterpreted in that country. No object of private interest-no conflict of reciprocal pretension - po sentiment of mistrust or jealousy, can inspire in our Cabinet an idea in opposition to the welfare of Spain.

The House of Austria has only to turn to the annals of its own bistory to find the most powerful motives of attachment, regard, and good-will towards a nation which may with just pride recall those centuries of glorious memory in which her sun of grandour never set-towards a nation which, poworful in respectable institutions. hereditary virtues, religious sentiments, and in love to her Kings. has rendered herself illustrious in every age by a patriotism always loyal, always generous, and very often heroic. During a period still recent, this nation astonished the world by the courage, devotion, and perseverance, which she oppesed to the ambitious usurper who endeavoured to deprive her of her Monarch and her laws; and Austria will never forget how useful was the noble resistance of the Spanish nation at a time of great danger for berself.

It is not to Spain, either as a nation or as a power, that can be applied the severe language which is dictated to his Imperial Majesty by his conscience and his love of truth: it applies only to those who have ruined and disfigured, and who persist in prolonging her sufferings.

On meeting his august Allies at Verona, his Majesty the Emperor has had the happiness again to find in their counsels the same tutelary and disinterested dispositions which have constantly guided his own. The tone of the despatches which will be addressed to Madrid will vouch for this fact, and will leave no doubt of the sincere anxiety of the Powers to serve

the cause of Spain, by demonstrating to her the necessity of pursuing a different course. It is certain that the grievances which oppress her have lately augmented in fearful progression. The most rigorous measures, the most hazardous expedients, can no longer give authority to her administration. Civil war rages in several of her provinces; her relations with the greatest portion of Europe are deranged or suspended: and her relations with France have even assumed so problematical a character, as to justify serious disquietude respecting the consequences which may thence result.

Would not such a state of things justify the most fatal forebodings?

Every Spaniard, who knows the real state of his country, ought to feel that, in order to burst the fetters which now bind the Monerch and his subjects, Spain must terminate that state of separation which has been the result of late events. The relations of confidence and sincerity must be reestablished between her and the other governments, relations which, by guaranteeing on the one hand her firm intention to associate herself in the common cause of the European monarch, may, on the other hand, furnish the means of estimating her real will, and of rejecting every thing calculated to pervert and restrain it. But to attain this end, it is especially indispensable that her King should be free, not only as regards that personal liberty which every individual may claim under the reign of the laws, but that liberty which a sovereign ought to enjoy in order to discharge his high vocation. The King of Spain will be free from the moment that he shall

have -

2 7 2

bave the power of putting an end to the evils which afflict his subjects, of restoring order and peace in his kingdom, of surrounding himself with men equally worthy of his confidence by their principles and talents; and, finally, of substituting for a regime acknowledged to be impracticable even by those whose egotism or pride still attaches to it, an order of things in which the rights of the monarch shall be happily blended with the real interests and legitimate views of all classes of the nation. When this moment shall arrive, Spain, wearied by long sufferings, may flatter herself with re-entering into full possession of the advantages which Heaven has allotted her, and which the noble character of her inhabitants insures to her; then will she be restored to those relations which unite her to all the European Powers; and his Imperial Majesty will congratulate himself upon having nothing left to offer her but the wishes which he entertains for her prosperity, and all the good services which he may have it in his power to render to an ancient friend and ally.

You will, M. le Comte, make of this despatch a use the most appropriate to the circumstances in which you may find yourself on receiving it. You are authorized to read it to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, as well as to give him a copy should he ask it.

Despatch from the Count de Bernstoff to the Prussian Chargé d'Affaires at Mudrid, dated Verona, November 22, 1822.

Sir,—Among the objects which fix the attention and demand the anxious solicitude of the Sovereigns and Cabinets assembled at Verena, the situation of Spain, and its relations with the rest of Europe, have occupied the first place.

You know the interest which the King, our august master, has never ceased to take in his Catholic Majesty, and in the Spanish nation.

This nation, so distinguished by the loyalty and energy of its character, illustrious from so many ages of glory and virtue, and always so celebrated for the noble devotion and heroic perseverance which made it triumph over the ambitious and despotic designs of the usurper of the French throne, possesses claims too venerable and too solid to the interest and regard of all Europe, to permit that its Sovereigns can view with indifference the miseries that actually oppress it, and those with which it is menaced.

An event the most deplorable has subverted the ancient basis of the Spanish monarchy, compromised the character of the nation, and attacked and poisoned public prosperity in its very sources.

A revolution, which sprang from military revolt, has suddenly broken all the bonds of duty, overthrown all legitimate order, and dissolved the elements of the social edifice, which cannot fall without covering the whole country with its ruins.

It was thought possible to replace this edifice, by extorting from a Sovereign already despoiled of all real authority and of all free will, the re-establishment of the Constitution of the Cortes of the year 1812, which, confounding all elements and all power, and assuming only the single principle of a permanent and legal opposition against against the government, necessarily destroyed that central and tutelary authority which constitutes the essence of the monarchical system.

The consequences have fully made known to the Spanish nation what are the fruits of so fatal an error.

The revolution,—that is to say, the letting loose of every passion against the ancient order of thingsfar from being stopped, checked, or modified, has developed itself in a manner at once rapid and terrifying. The government, powerful and paralysed, had no longer the means of either doing good or preventing evil. All its powers were found concentrated, accumulated, and confounded, in one single assembly; this assembly presented only a conflict of opinions and views, of interests and of passions, in the midst of which propositions and resolutions of the most heterogeneous kind were constantly produced, resisted, or neutralized. The accendancy of the fatal doctrines of a disorganised philosophy could not but augment the general delusion, until at last, as might naturally be expected, every notion of sound policy was abandoned for vain theories, and every sentiment of justice and moderation sucrificed to the dreams of fallacious liberty. From that moment, institutions, established under the pretence of offering securities against the abuse of authority, became merely the instruments of injustice and violence, and the means of covering this tyrannical system with an appearance of legality.

Without the slightest heaitation, the most venerable and sacred rights were abolished; lawful property was violated; and the Church was stripped of its dignity, its pre-

rogatives, and its possessions. may be thought that a despotic power, exercised by a faction only to the injury of the country, would soon have fallen to pieces, if delusive declamations from the tribune, ferocious outeries from the clubs. and the licentiousness of the press, had not kept down public opinion, and stiffed the voice of that sound and reasonable part of the Spanish nation, which Europe was wellaware formed an immense majority. But the measure of injustice was filled, and the patience of faithful Spaniards appeared at length to be exhausted. On all sides discontent burst forth, and whole provinces became the preyof civil war.

In the midst of this dreadful agitation, the sovereign of the country was seen reduced to an absolutely powerless state, deprived of all liberty of action and of will, a prisoner in his capital, separated from all his faithful servants who still remained attached to him, loaded with insults and contumely, and exposed, from day to day, to attempts which, if the faction did not provoke them, at least they had retained no means of preventing.

You, Sir, who have witnessed the origin, the progress, and the consequences of the revolution of the year 1820, can testify that there is nothing exaggerated in the picture of it which I have thus rapidly traced. Things have now reached that crisis, that the Sovereigns assembled at Verona at length feel themselves compelled to inquire what are now, and what will hereafter be, the nature of their relations with Spain.

It might have been hoped, that the dreadful calamity with which Spain was attacked would have ex-: perienced

perionced crises of a nature calculated to bring back that ancient monarchy to an order of things compatible with its own welfare, and with relations of friendship and confidence between itself and the other states of Europe. But this hope has been hitherto frustrated. The moral state of Spain is at the present moment such, that her relations with Foreign Powers must necessarily be doubtful and uncertain. Doctrines subversive of all social order are openly preached and protected. Insults, directed against the principal Sovereigns of Europe, fill with impunity the pubhe journals. The revolutionists of Spain disperse their emissaries, in order to associate with themselves, in their pernicious labours, whatever conspirators may be found in foreign countries against public order and legitimate authority.

The inevitable effect of so many disorders has particularly manifested itself in the change of relations between Spain and France. The irritation which has resulted is of a nature calculated to create the most just apprehensions as to the maintenance of peace between the two countries. This circumstance alone would be sufficient to determine the assembled Sovereigns to break silence upon a state of things which every day threatens to compromise the tranquillity of Europe.

Is the Spanish Government willing, or is it able, to apply a remedy to evils so palpable and so netorious? Will it, and can it, prevent or repress the hostile consequences and the insulting provocations which arise with regard to foreign governments, from the position in which the revolution has

placed it, and from the system which it has established?

We conceive that nothing can be more contrary to the intentions of his most Catholic Majesty, than to see himself placed in a situation so extremely painful with respect to Foreign Sovereigns; but it is precisely because this Monarch, who is the only authentic and legitimete organ of communication between Spain and the other Powers of Enrope, finds himself deprived of his liberty, and restrained in his will, that those Powers consider their relations with Spain to be compromised and deranged.

It is not for Fereign Courts to judge what institutions would harmonize best with the character, the manners, and the real wants of the Spanish nation; but it does indubitably belong to them judge of the consequences which experiments of this kind produce with regard to themselves, and to regulate by those consequences their future determinations, and their future positions, with regard to Spain. Now, the King, our master, is of opinion, that in order to preserve, and re-establish on solid foundation, his relations with Foreign Powers, the Spanish Government cannot do less than give to these last unequivocal proofs of the liberty of his Catholic Majesty, and an adequate guarantee of its disposition, and of its ability to remove the causes of our regret and of our too just inquietude respecting it.

The King orders you, Sir, not to conceal this opinion from the Spanish Minister, to read to him this despatch, to leave a copy of it in his hands, and to request him to explain himself frankly and clearly upon the points to which it refersi

Reply

## Reply to the Note of the Prench Minister.

Under this date I communicate the following, by Royal order, to the Minister Plempotentiary of his Majesty in Paris :- "The Government of his Catholic Majesty has just received a note transmitted by that of his Most Christian Majesty to its Minister Plenipotentiary in this court, an official copy of which document is directed to your Excellency for your necessary information.

" The Government of his Catholic Mujesty has few observations to make on the said note. But in order that your Excellency may not feel any embarrassment with regard to the conduct which you ought to observe under these circumstances. it becomes it to manifest frankly its sentiments and resolutions.

· "The Government was never without the conviction that the institutions adopted freely and sponteneously by Spain would give rise to jealousies in many of the Cabinets of Europe, and would become the object of the deliberations of the Congress of Verona. secure in its principles, and firm in the resolution to defend at every expense its present political system, and the national independence, it quietly uwaited the result of those conferences.

"Spain is governed by a Constitution promulgated, accepted, and sworn in the year 1812, and acknowledged by the Powers which were assembled in the Congress of Verona. Perfidious counsellors would have persuaded his Catholic Majesty D. Fernando Vil. not to have sworn on his return to that fundamental code which the whole nation desired, and which was destrayed by force, without any re-

monstrance on the part of the Powers which had recognized it. But six years' experience, and the general wish, induced him to identify himself, in 1820, with the desires of the Spanish people.

"It was not a military insurrection which gave rise to this new order of things in the commencement of the year 1820. The brave men who declared themselves in the island of Leon, and successively in the rest of the provinces; were only the organ of the general opinion

and wish.

"It was natural that this order of things should produce discontents: that is an inevitable consequence of every reform which aims at a correction of abuses. viduals are always to be found in every nation and in every state, who can never submit themselves to the empire of reason and justice.

"The Army of ()bservation the French Government which maintains in the Pyrenees is not calculated to quiet the disorders with which Spain is afflicted. Experience has proved, on the contrary, that this Sanatory Cordon, which afterwards assumed the title of Army of Observation, has only served to nourish the wild hopes of the deluded fanation who raised the cry of rebellion in several of the provinces, by giving: them a pretext for cherishing the idea of an approaching invasion of our territory,

"As the principles, the views,.. or the fears, which have influenced the conduct of the Cabinets assem-, bled at the Congress of Verona, cannot serve as a rule for that of Spain, the latter abstains, for the present, from replying to that part of the instructions of the Comte

de Lagarde, which relates to the

said Congress.

"The days of calm and tranquility which the Government of his Most Christian Majesty wishes to the Spanish nation, are not less anxiously desired by herself and her Government. Both being perseaded that the remedy of their misfortunes can only be the work of time and perseverance, they make, as it is their duty to do, every effort to accelerate such useful and salutary effects.

"The Spanish Government justly appreciates the offers made by that of his Most Christian Majesty to contribute towards its happiness as far as lies in its power; but is persuaded that the measures and precautions which the latter has adopted can produce only con-

trary results.

"The assistance which it is now incumbent on the French Government to give to that of Spain is purely negative. The disbanding its army of the Pyrenees-the restraining the factious enemies of Spain, and the refugees in France -and a marked and decided animadversion on those who take pleasure in blackening, in the most atrocious manner, the Government of his Catholic Majesty, as well as the institutions of Spain and her Cortes, is what the law of nations, as respected by all civilized countries, requires.

"For France to say that she wishes the welfare and tranquillity of Spain, while she constantly keeps lighted up the brands of discord, which give aliment to the principal evils with which she is afflicted, is to plunge into an abyss of contradictions.

" Moreover, whatever may be

the determination which the Government of his Most Christian Majesty may deem advisable to take in this conjuncture, that of his Catholic Majesty will continue trangail in the path pointed out by its duty, the justness of its cause, the character of constancy and of firm attachment to constitational principles, which eminently distinguish the nation at the head of which it is placed; and without now entering into an analysis of the hypothetical and ambiguous expressions of the instructions transmitted to the Count de Lagarde, it concludes by observing that the repose and prosperity of the nation, as well as every thing that may augment the elements of its prosperity, can interest no Power more warmly than Spain berself.

"Constant attachment to the Constitution of 1812, peace with all nations, and the denial of the right of intervention in her affairs on the part of any Power, form the national motto and rule of conduct, as well for the present as for all future times.

"Your Excellency is authorized to read this note to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, and to give him a copy if he request it. Your judgment and your pradence will suggest to you the conduct, firm and worthy of Spain, which ought to be pursued on this occasion.

"This I have the honour to communicate to your Excellency by order of his Majesty; and I take this opportunity of renewing the assurances of my distinguished consideration, and of praying that God may preserve your life many years.

" Your

".Your Excellency's attentive and constant servant kisses your hand.

"EVARISTO SAN MIGUEL."
The Palace, Jan. 9, 1828.

\* To the Minister of France."

The notes of the Cabinets of

Austria, Prussia, and Russia were then read.

The reading being concluded, the Secretary of State rose and said:—

"His Majesty's Government is of opinion, that it would neither be seasonable, just, nor decorous, to make any reply to these notes, since they are full of invectives and calumnies and malign suspicions, not strictly directed against the whole nation, but against those who govern it, and against the individuals who accomplished the revolution.

Several Deputies here interrupted the Secretary of State by exclaiming—" All! All! they are directed against all the nation."

Senor San Miguel continued ---". These invectives are pointed against all, but more particularly against those who govern the nation, and those who brought about the revolution and are its support. On the view of those notes it has appeared to his Majesty's Government, that, reserving the right of making manifest its principles and the justice of its cause by means of a frank exposition of the history of our revolution, it is fit firmly to declare, that it in no manner recognizes either a right of intervention or necessity for any foreign Cabinet to meddle in its affairs. I shall now have the honour to read the note which is to serve for the answer to the three Cabinets."

Note trunsmitted to the Charges d'Affaires at the Courts of Vionna, Benlin, and Petersburgh.

"Under this date I communicate to the Charge d'Affaires of his Majesty at the Court of by royal order, the following:——

"This document, full of perverted facts, defamatory supposit tions, accusations equally unjust and slanderous, and vague requests. does not call for any categorical and formal reply on any of its points. The Spanish Government; deferring to a more convenient obportunity the exhibiting to all nations, in a public and solemn manner, its sentiments, its principles; its determinations, and the justice of the cause of the generous nation at the head of which it is placed, is, for the present, content to declare-

"1. That the Spanish nation is governed by a Constitution solemaly recognized by the Emperor of all the Russias in the year 1812.

"2. That the Spaniards, friends to their country, who proclaimed, at the commencement of 1812, that Constitution which was abolished by violence in 1814, were not perijured men, but had the imperishable honour of being the instruments of the general will.

"3. That the Constitutional King of Spain is in the free exercise of the powers which the fundamental code has conferred upon him, and whatever may be alleged to the contrary proceeds from the

enemies

enemies of Spain, for the purpose of blackening and calumniating her.

"4. That the Spanish nation has never interfered with the institutions or internal government of any other state.

" 5. That the healing of the ills which may afflict Spain interests no

nation more than berself.

"6. That those evils are not consequences of the Constitution, but proceed from the enemies who endeavour to destroy it.

"7. That the Spanish nation will never acknowledge the right of any Power to interfere or mix itself

in its affairs.

"8. That the Government will never deviate from the line traced out by its duties, by national homour, and by its unalterable attachment to the fundamental code sworn to in 1812.

"Your Excellency is authorised to communicate this despatch verbally to the Minister for Foreign Affairs at —, giving him a copy

if he ask it.

"His Majesty hopes that your Excellency's prudence, seal, and patriotism will suggest to you that conduct which is firm and worthy of the Spanish name, and which, in the present circumstances, ought to be followed.

"This is what I have the honour to communicate to your Excel-

leavy by order of his Majesty; and I seize this opportunity to renew the assurances of my distinguished consideration, praying God to preserve your life many years. I kiss your hands. Your attestive and

constant servant.

" EVARISTO SAN MIGUEL. "The Palace, Jan. 9, 1823.

"To Senor —, Charge d'Af-

Speech of the King of France, delivered at the opening of the session of the two Chambers, on Tuesday, January 28th.

"Gentlemen, — The length of the two last sessions, the short time which they have left you uneccupied, would have made me wish to be able to put off for a short time the opening of the present. But the regular vote of the expenditure of the State is an advantage of which you have felt all the value; and in order to preserve it, I have counted upon the same devotion which was necessary for me to obtain it.

"The situation of the interior of the kingdom is improved; the administration of justice, loyally exercised by the Juries, wisely and religiously directed by the Magistrates, has put an end to the plots and attempts at revolt which were encouraged by the hope of impunity.

"I have concluded with the Iloly See those conventions which were necessary for the formation of the new diocese of which the law authorizes the establishment.

"Every where the churches will be provided with their pastors; and the clergy of France, completely organised, will bring upon us the

blessings of Providence.

"I have provided by ordinances, as economy in our expenses required, ragular order in the accounts. My Ministers will submit to the sanction of the law the account of the expenses of the year 1821. They will furnish yos with the statement of the receipt and expenses effected in 1822, and that of the charges and resources to be expected in 1824.

"It results from these documents, that all prior expenses being liquidated—even those which the military preparations have rendered necessary—we enter upon the year 1823 with forty millions of excess upon the accounts open for this year; and that the budget for 1824 will present a balance of receipts and expenses, without requiring the employment of this reserve.

"France owed to Europe the example of a prosperity which people cannot obtain but by the return to religion—to legitimacy—to order—to true liberty. That salutary example she now gives.

"But Divine justice permits, that, after having for a long time made other nations suffer the terrible effects of our disorders, we should ourselves be exposed to dangers brought about by similar calamities among a neighbouring people.

"I have made every endeavour to guarantee the security of my people, and to preserve Spain herself from the extremity of misfortune. The infatuation with which the representations made at Madrid have been rejected, leaves little hope of preserving peace.

"I have ordered the recall of my Ministers: one hundred thousand Frenchmen, commanded by a Prince of my family,—by him whom my heart delights to call my son,—are ready to march, inveking the God of St. Louis, for the sake of preserving the throne of Spain to a descendant of Henry IV.—of saving that fine kingdom from its ruin, and of reconciling it with Europe.

"Our stations are about to be reinforced in those places where our maritime commerce has need of that protection. Cruisers shall be established every where, wherever our arrivals can possibly be annoyed.

"If war is inevitable, I will use all my endeavours to confine its circle, to limit its duration; it will be undertaken only to conquer peace, which the state of Spain would render impossible. Let Ferdinand VII. be free to give to his people institutions which they cannot hold but from him, and which by securing their tranquillity would dissipate the just inquietudes of France. Hostilities shall cease from that moment. I make, gentlemen, before you, a solemn engagement on this point.

"I was bound to lay before you the state of our foreign affairs. It was for me to deliberate. I have done it maturely. I have consulted the dignity of my crown, the honour and security of France. Gentlemen, we are Frenchmen; we shall always be agreed to defend such interests."

Petition presented to Parliament from the Corporation of London.

"That while your petitioners deeply sympathize with the sufferings of the agricultural interests, they beg to represent to your honourable house, that they are themselves also suffering under the pressure of accumulated burdens, which become daily more insupportable by the depreciation of every description of property: while, after eight years of profound peace, no proportionate reduction in taxation has taken place, nor have any measures been adopted for the removal of national grievances.

"That they have marked the numerous encroachments that have been made, since the period of the Revolution, upon the constitutional rights, and consequently upon the.

property,

property, of the subject; but more particularly the accelerated progress of those encroachments during the late reign, and since the commencement of the late wars; and they have observed, that those encroachments have kept due pace with the corruption, dependence, and consequent inefficiency of the representation; by which every, or any, set of Ministers have been enabled to exercise an uncontrolled influence, and to carry on their projects, however adverse to the interests of the nation.

""That your petitioners therefore submit, that the present enormous burdens and distresses of the country have not arisen from any unforeseen or unavoidable causes, but have been the necessary result of a long course of corrupt influence, extravagance, and misrule; of wars rashly and unjustly undertaken, and of enormous and unnecessary establishments; all of which could only have arisen and grown up to their present portentous magnitude, from the want of that constitutional control over the servants of the Crown which can only be found in a free and uncorrapted representation of the people in Parliament.

"That without recurring to earlier times, your petitioners need only revert to the reign of Charles I., where the attempts first to control the proceedings of, and then to govern without, a Parliament, brought that deluded Monarch to his unhappy end; while similar conduct in the two succeeding reigns, and the more insidious attempts to corrupt the Parliament, led to the expulsion of James II. from the throne.

"That so sensible were the great statesmen of that day of the bane-

ful effects of attempting to destroy the independence of Parliament, that in the Bill of Rights it was declared, 'That the election of members of Parliament ought to be free; and that for the redress of all grievances, and the amending, strengthening, and preserving the laws, Parliament ought to be held frequently:' and the preamble to the said bill stated, 'that frequent new Parliaments tend very much to the happy union of King and people.'

"That your petitioners have to lament that, surrounded with difficulties as their ancestors then were, their intentions thus expressed of rendering the representation more perfect, and preserving its independence, were not carried into effect: hence the constitutional barriers they set up for the security of the people were found but feeble guards against the assaults of selfish and designing ministers, who have perseveringly and systematically so undermined the independence of election, that in most of the boroughs scarcely a vestige of freedom now remains.

"That your petitioners beg to draw the attention of your honourable House to facts which most lead to the inevitable conclusion. that if the representation was not considered adequate at the period of the Revolution, and to the state of the country at that time, from the great changes that have since taken place in the population and the circumstances of the country, with the general dissemination of knowledge, it must now have become wholly inefficient for all the great and beneficial purposes of representation.

"That your petitioners beg to impress upon the consideration of

your

your honourable House, that the population, which at the Revolution scarcely exceeded 5,000,000, now exceeds 12,000,000, and including Wales, 14,000,000; which, with the population of Scotland and Ireland, amounts to 21,000,000. With this vast increase of population extensive towns have arisen, and industry and property have been directed into new channels; and your petitioners conceive that, if no other argument could be advanced in favour of reform, the existence of so immense a mass of unrepresented population and property would alone be sufficient to induce your honourable House to admit them into the exercise of their undoubted civil rights, by a full and equal participation in the elective franchise.

"That when the present state of the representation is considered -when it is notorious that the most glaring bribery and perjury are habitually committed, that members are sent to your hon. House, not even by the choice of those few who nominally elect them, but by individual proprietors of boroughs,—that in violation of the constitution and the orders of your honourable house, numerous Peer's are to be found among those proprietors—and that Parliaments, which, in the language of Mr. Burke, were not instituted to be 'a control upon the people, but a control for the people,' become thereby instruments in the hands of administration-your petitioners humbly conceive, that the existence of such abuses is wholly incompatible with the public safety, and must lead, if not speedily corrected, to a train of calamities.

"That your petitioners have

also to state other reasons in support of the necessity of reform-At the Revolution, and long subsequently thereto, the present extensive and organized means of influence and corruption were not in existence. At the accession of William III. there was no national debt: since that time a debt of 800,000,000l. has been created. The annual taxes have been increased during that period from 2,000,000l. to 60,000,000l.; and the peace expenditure is no less than 53,000,000l. The expense for the collection alone is now double the whole national expenditure at that period. That endless source of vexation and oppression, the excise, which even the influence of Sir R. Walpole could not extend. is now increased from 500,000l. to nearly 30,000,000l. per annum. The assessed taxes, another source of vexation and oppression, and which at that time had no existare now 8,500,000% per ence, The poor-rates, scarcely annum. then known, have been increased, even since the year 1792, from 2,000,000l. to about 7,000,000k The stamp duties, no less burdensome and partial in their operation, were not then known, as also other grievous imposts that could be men-Standing armies were not tioned. then tolerated: during the reign of William III. they never exceeded 10,000 men; and your honourable House is aware of the stand that was made in Parliament in the reign of George II., upon constitutional grounds, against the keeping up of a force not then amounting to 18,000 men, but now the country has, in time of peace, to support an army of 80,000. To the above-mentioned sources of influence fluence may be added, the increased number of Peers, many of whom, your petitioners have reason to fear, owe their advancement solely to their influence in returning members to your hon. House. The introduction, also, of Scotch and Irish members into your honourable house, who are mostly returned by the same unconstitutional means, has greatly added to the preponderating influence of the Ministers of the Crown.

"That your petitioners have also to observe, that the extending the duration of Parliament by the Septennial Act was another measure that conferred upon Ministers and their dependents an undue and dangerous acquisition of influence, and has been a fruitful source of corruption among electors. The said act was passed as a temporary measure to meet a particular emergency, but not without great difficulty; and has always been considered, by some of the highest authorities, as an unwarrantable and unconstitutional assumption of power by the Parliament, for the exercise of which authority they had no more right than they would have had to render themselves permanent.

"That your petitioners having enumerated the foregoing facts, cannot omit stating some others respecting the present actual state of the representation.

"That in a petition presented to your honourable House in 1793 by the Hon. Mr. Grey (now Lord Grey), it was alleged and offered to be proved, that 307 Members of your honourable House, forming a majority therein, were returned, not by the voice of the people, but by 158 Peers and other powerful

individuals; and in the said petition they attributed the eagerness with which seats were sought, to the increased national debt and consequent increase of influence the debt being at that time 244 millions, and the annual expenditure 16 millions.

"That your petitioners beg particularly to impress upon the minds of your honourable House, that if the national debt, which had been accumulating for a century, could in 1793 have so powerful an influence, in how much higher a degree must its pernicious operation have been increased, when from that time to the present it has advanced from 244 to the enormous amount of 800 millions?

"That they beg therefore to call the attention of your honourable House to the following additional facts, which they believe to be substantially correct, as far as facts of such a nature can be ascertained.

" That there are in your hon. House no less than 89 members who hold places, sinecures, or pensions under the Government, who share among themselves 183,372l. 8s.  $10\frac{1}{2}d$ , of the public money, and who, as your petitioners are informed and believe, invariably vote, with the exception of some few, with Ministers; and that the indirect influence in your bon. House is further augmented by the great number of members who are the relatives or dependents of persome holding similar places and appointments, as well as by the extensive military, naval, church, and colonial patronage.

"That the boroughs in Comwall send to your hon. House 42, members; while, exclusive of county members, 43 only are returned by sixteen other counties, including London and Middlesex.

"That the said county of Cornwall contains a population of 250,000, and nearly 45,000 houses, and only about 1200 persons return the said 42 members: That were the said voters uninfluenced, your petitioners conceive that this return could in no sense be considered a representation, even of that county; whereas, they are notoriously corrupt, and mostly under the dominion of patrons.

"That the county of Wilts, containing a population of 220,000, and 42,000 houses, returns 32 members; and, as your petitioners are informed and believe, the elections are wholly under the control and dominion of about 21 individuals, among whom are some

Peers.

"That the said counties of Cornwall and Wilts, together, send 74 members; while nineteen other counties, with a population of four millions and a half, send only 76, exclusive of county members.

"That the county of Surrey, containing more than \$98,000 inhabitants, and 64,000 houses, returns 14 members: That, exclusive of the electors of Southwark, about 3000 in number, the other 12 members are returned nominally by about 500 persons, but in fact by about half-a-dozen patrons: That at Gatton, Bletchingly, Reygate, and Haslemere, in the said county, which return eight of the above, the elections are a gross burlesque, the inhabitants having no more concern therein than the Emperor of Morocco.

"That while these, with Old Sarum, and numerous other places, which are too well known to be pointed out, remain an indelible stain upon the character and sense of the nation, Birmingham, Manchester, Leeds, and Halifax, containing together a population of more than 400,000 persons, and other large and populous towns and districts, the seats of industry, intelligence, and capital, are wholly excluded from their just and constitutional share in the legislature, having no choice whatever in the election of representatives.

"That Middlesex and Lancashire, containing a population of nearly two millions and a quarter, return only 22 members, including the county and London mem-

bers.

"That in many of the large cities and towns a very small number of the resident householders have any share in the elections, most of the voters being non-resident.

"At Liverpool, for instance, where the population consists of nearly 119,000 persons, the voters do not amount to 3000; and two-thirds of those are non-resident, while opulent and respectable house-holders neither have nor can obtain

the right of voting.

"That at other places the election is confined to close corporations, composed of a few self-elected individuals. At the city of Bath, containing with its suberbs a population of 53,000, the inhabitants have no voice whatever in the choice of members, the two members being returned by a close self-elected corporation, consisting, of 33 persons only: and at Mariborough, containing upwards of 3000 inhabitants, the members are chosen in like manner by a

close

close corporation of twenty burgesses, recently reduced to only five voters.

"That your petitioners have judged it proper thus to point out a few instances of glaring inequality; but your honourable House must be aware, that there are a great number of similar instances which could not be enumerated in the space of a petition; and that instances of bribery, perjury, and corrupt influence, pervade the whole system, poisoning the morals of the people, and threatening the subversion of the constitution.

"That it is notoriously known that seats are sold at enormously high prices; and your petitioners submit, that it is against all experience and credibility to suppose that those who thus obtain their seats in your honourable House will not indemnify themselves by shamefully bartering the interests of the public for their own emolument.

"That further to show the progress of corrupt influence, your petitioners beg to state, that the number of statutes found necessary to preserve the freedom and independence of Parliament, to regulate elections, and to prevent frauds, bribery, &c., down to the Revolution of 1688, amounted only to 14; those passed from that time to the death of Geo. II. were 35; and those passed during the reign of Geo. III. were 41; making together 90 statutes.

"That your petitioners conceive, that if the present distresses and embarrassments of the country, the disregard which has year after year been shown to the petitions of the people, and the majorities which have appeared devoted to the Ministers in support of measures hostile

to their rights and interests, and against the declared sense of the nation, were not of themselves sufficient evidence of the inadequacy of the representation, the foregoing facts cannot fail to produce conviction of its utter inefficacy to correct abuses, and secure the people against the encroachments of

" That although your petitioners cannot expect that a reformed Parliament could immediately remove evils so deeply rooted, they feel confident that as the want of this salutary and constitutional control over the Ministers of the Crown has been the great source of national evil, a Parliament fairly chosen, which shall represent the feelings, opinions, and interests of the nation at large, would gradually remove their grievances, and reconcile the people to such burdens and privations as may be unavoidable.

"Your petitioners call to the recollection of your honourable House, that in this mixed government of King, Lords, and Commons, the representative body forms an essential and fundamental part of the British Constitution --- that it is the only safeguard of the people against arbitrary power -the great bulwark by which the life, the liberty, and the property of the subject can alone be protected-that, in the words of that great statesman, Lord Somers. the House of Commons is the great inquest of the whole kingdom to search into all the oppressions of the King's Ministers'—that in the language of not less authority, that of Mr. Locke, 'the supreme executor acts contrary to his trust. when he either employs the force, treasure, or offices of the society,

to corrupt the representatives, and to gain them to his purposes, or openly pre-engages the electors and prescribes to their choice: what is it but to cut up the Government by its roots, and poison the very fountain of public security? they may also quote the memorable words of Lord Camden—' Taxation and representation are inseparably united: no British Parliament can separate them: to endeavour to do it is to stab our vitals. Taxation and representation are inseparable; this position is founded upon the laws of nature, for whatever is a man's own is absolutely his own; no man has a right to take it from him without his own consent, either expressed by himself or his representative. Whoever attempts it, attempts an injury; whoever does it commits a robbery; he throws down the distinction between liberty and sla-Taxation and representation are coeval with, and essential to the Constitution.

"Your petitioners disclaim all visionary and impracticable projects of Reform. They are desirous of seeing the Executive Government guarded by all its constitutional prerogatives; -- they are desirous of preserving to the Hereditary Branch all its just privileges; but they are also desirous of seeing the Representative Body placed upon its true basis, and rendered the real and efficient representation of the people.

" Your petitioners. therefore, humbly pray, that your honourable House will take all these facts and circumstances into your serious consideration;—that you will cause immediately all practicable reductions to be made in the public expenditure, and adopt such mea-

1823.

sures as may effectually restore to the people their just share in the legislature, by a full, fair, and free representation in Parliament."

Petition against Religious Persecution, presented to Parliament, signed by 2047 Persons, of whom 98 were Ministers.

"That your petitioners are sincere believers in the Christian Revelation from personal conviction on examination of the evidences on its behalf; and are thankful to Almighty God for the unspeakable blessing of the Gospel, which they regard as the most sacred sanction. the best safeguard, and the most powerful motive, of morality, as the firmest support and most effectual relief amidst the afflictions and troubles of this state of humanity, and as the surest foundstion of the hope of a life to come, which hope they consider to be in the highest degree conducive to the dignity, purity, and happiness of society.

"That with these views and feelings, your petitioners beg leave to state to your honourable house. that they behold with sorrow and shame the prosecutions against persons who have printed or published books which are, or are presumed to be, hostile to the Christian religion, from the full persuasion that such prosecutions are inconsistent with, and contrary to, both the spirit and the letter of the Gospel, and, moreover, that they are more favourable to the spread of infidelity, which they are intended to check, than to the support of the Christian Faith, which they are professedly undertaken to uphold.

"Your petitioners cannot but consider all Christians bound by 2 G their their religious professions to bow with reverence and submission to the precepts of the great founder of our faith; and nothing appears to them plainer in the Gospel than that it forbids all violent measures for its propagation, and all vindictive measures for its justification and defence. The author and finisher of Christianity has declared, that his kingdom is not of this world; and, as in his own example he showed a perfect pattern of compassion towards them that are ignorant and out of the way of truth, of forbearance towards objectors, and of forgiveness of wilful enemies; so, in his moral laws, he has prohibited the spirit that would attempt to root up speculative error with the arm of flesh, or that would call down fire from Heaven to consume the unbelieving, and has commanded the exercise of meekness, tenderness, and brotherly love towards all mankind, as the best and only means of promoting his cause upon earth, and the most acceptable way of glorifying the great Father of mercies, who is kind even to the unthankful and the evil.

"By these reasonable, charitable, and peaceful means, the Christian religion was not only established originally, but also supported for the three first centuries of the Christian era, during which it triumphed over the most fierce and potent opposition, unaided by temporal power: and your petitioners humbly submit to your honourable house; that herein consists one of the brightest evidences of the truth of the Christian religion; and that they are utterly at a loss to conceive how that which is universally accounted to have been the glory of the gospel in its beginnings, should now cease to be accounted its glory, or how it should at this day be less the maxim of Christianity, and less the rule of the conduct of Christians, than in the days of those that are usually denominated the Fathers of the church—that it is no part of religion to compel religion, which must be received not by force, but of free choice.

"Your petitioners would earnestly represent to your honourable house, that our holy religion has borne uninjured every test that reason and learning have applied to it, and that its divine origin, its purity, its excellence, and its title to universal acceptation, have been made more manifest by every new examination and discussion of its nature, pretensions, and claims. Left to itself, under the divine blessing, the reasonableness and innate excellence of Christianity will infallibly promote its influence over the understandings and hearts of mankind; but when the angry passions are suffered to rise in its professed defence, these provoke the like passions in hostility to it, and the question is no longer one of pure truth, but of power on the one side, and of the capacity of endurance on the other.

"It appears to your petitioners that it is altogether unnecessary and impolitic to recur to penal laws in aid of Christianity. The judgment and feelings of human nature, testified by the history of man in all ages and nations, incline mankind to religion; and it is only when they erringly associate religion with fraud and injustice that they can be brought in any large number to bear the evils of scepticism and unbelief. Your petitioners acknowledge and lament the wide diffusion amongst the people of sentiments unfriendly to the Christian

Christian faith; but they cannot refrain from stating to your honourable house their conviction that this unexampled state of the public mind is mainly owing to the prosecution of the holders and propagators of infidel opinions. Objections to Christianity have thus become familiar to the readers of the weekly and daily journals-curiosity has been stimulated with regard to the publications prohibited -an adventitious, unnatural, and dangerous importance has been given to sceptical erguments—a suspicion has been excited in the minds of the multitude that the Christian religion can be supheld only by pains and penalties, and sympathy has been raised on behalf of the sufferers, whom the uninformed and unwise regard with the reverence and confidence that belong to the character of martyrs the diffusion of knowledge, and the to the truth.

" Your petitioners would remind your honourable house, that all history testifies the futility of all prosecutions for mere opinions, unless such prosecutions proceed the length of exterminating the holders of the opinions prosecuted—an extreme from which the liberal spirit and the humanity of the present times revolt.

"The very same maxims and principles that are pleaded to justify the punishment of unbelievers would authorise Christians of different denominations to vex and barass each other on the alleged ground of want of faith, and likewise form an apology for heathen persecutions against Christians, whether the persecutions that were anciently carried on against the divinely-taught preachers of our religion, or those that may now be instituted by the ruling party in

Pagan countries, where Christian missionaries are so laudably employed in endeavouring to expose the absurdity, folly, and mischievous influence of idolatry.

"Your petitioners would intreat your honourable house to consider that belief does not in all cases depend upon the will, and that inquiry into the truth of Christianity will be wholly prevented, if persons are rendered punishable for any given result of inquiry. Firmly attached as your petitioners are to the religion of the Bible, they cannot but consider the liberty of rejecting, to be implied in that of embracing it. The unbeliever may. indeed, be silenced by his fears, but it is scarcely conceivable that any real friend to Christianity, or amy one who is solicitous for the improvement of the human mind, establishment of truth, should wish to reduce any portion of mankind to the necessity of concealing their honest judgment upon moral and theological questions, and of making an outward profession that shall be inconsistent with their inward persuasion.

"Your petitioners are not ignorant that a distinction is commonly made between those unbelievers that argue the question of the truth of Christianity calmly and dispassionately, and those that treat the sacred subject with levity and ridicule; but although they feel the strongest disgust at every mede of discussion which proaches to indecency and profaneness, they cannot help thinking that it is neither wise nor safe to constitute the manner and temper of writing an object of legal visitation: inasmuch as it is impossible to define where argument ends and

evil speaking begins. The reviler of Christianity appears to your petitioners to be the least formidable of its enemies; because his scoffs can rarely fail of arousing against him public opinion, than which nothing more is wanted to defeat his Between freedom of discussion and absolute persecution there is no assignable medium; and nothing seems to your petitioners more impolitic than to single out the intemperate publications of modern unbelievers for legal reprobation, and thus by implication to give a licence to the grave reasonings of those that preceded them in the course of open hostility to the Christian religion, which reasonings are much more likely to make a dangerous impression upon the minds of their readers. But independently of considerations of expediency and policy, your petitioners cannot forbear recording their humble protest against the principle implied in the prosecutions alluded to, that a religion proceeding from infinite wisdom and protected by Almighty power, depends upon human patronage for its perpetuity and influ-Wherefore they pray your honourable house to take into consideration the prosecutions carrying on, and the punishments already inflicted upon unbelievers, in order to exonerate Christianity from the opprobrium and scandal so unjustly cast upon it, of being a system that countenances intolerance and persecution.

" And your petitioners will ever pray, &c.

## ERICAN ANNUAL TREASURY REPORT. ٨M OFFICIAL PAPER.

In obedience to the directions of the "Act supplementary to the act to establish the Treasury Department," the Secretary of the Treasury respectfully submits the following Report:-

 Of the Public Revenue and Expenditure of the Years 1821 and 1822. The net revenue which accrued from duties on imports and tonnage during the year 1821 amounted to 15,898,434 42 Dols.

mium

The actual receipts in the Treasury during the year 1821, including the loan of 85,000,000, amounted to Dols. 13,004,447 15 Vig. Customs . Public lands, exclusive of Mississippi stock Arrears of internal duties and direct Dividend on stock in the Bank of the United States, and other incidental receipts Loan authorized by act of the 3d of March, 1821, including a pre-

19,573,703 72

356,290 11

1,212,966 46

mium of 264,703 70, gained on the same 5,000,000 00 Making, with the balances in the Treasury on the 1st of January, 1821, of	1,198,461 21
The expenditure during the year 1821 amounted to Civil, diplomatic, and miscellaneous Military service, including fortifications, ordnance, Indian department, revolutionary and military pensions, arming the militia, and arrearages prior to the 1st of Jan.	20,772,164 93 19,090,572 69
Naval service, including the gradual increase of the navy	
Public debt 8,367,093 62 Leaving a balance in the Treasury on the 1st of Jan.,	
The actual receipts in the Treasury during the three first quarters of the year 1822 are estimated to have amounted to	1,681,592 24
Making the total estimated receipts in the Treasury during the year 1822	19,745,408 75
And with the balance in the Treasury, on the 1st of January, 1822, forming an aggregate of The expenditures during the three 1st quarters of the year 1822 are	21,427,000 99
estimated to have amounted to . 12,278,653 32. Viz. Civil, diplomatic, and miscellaneous . 1,536,434 24	Military.

Military service, including fortifications, ordnance, Indian department, revolutionary and military pensions, arming the militia, and arrearages prior to 1st January, 1817 . 4,930,210 68  Naval service, including the gradual increase of the navy, 1,538,952 88  Public Debt . 4,273,055 52  The expenditures during the fourth quarter, including the redemption of the 2,000,000 of six per cent. stock of 1820, are estimated at 6,000,000  Making the total estimated expenditure of the year 1822	1 <b>8,278,6</b> <i>53</i>	32			
And leaving in the Treasury on the 1st of January, 1823, an estimated balance of 3,148,347 67 After deducting from this sum certain balances of appropriations, amounting to 1,232,212 dollars, 11c., which are necessary to effect the objects for which they were severally made, or have been deducted from the estimates for the service of the ensuing year, a balance of 1,916,135 dollars 56c. remains; which, with the receipts into the Treasury during the year 1823, constitutes the means for defraying the current service of that year.					
2. Of the Public Debt.	•				
The funded debt which was contracted before the year 1812, and which was unredeemed on the 1st October, 1821, amounted to Dols. And that which was contracted subsequently to the 1st of January, 1812, and was unredeemed on the 1st of October, 1821, amounted to	17,833,746 75,852,458				
Making the total amount of funded debt unredeemed on					
the 1st of October, 1821	93,686,205	2			
Treasury Note six per cent. stock to the amount of	390	40			
Making an aggregate of In the same quarter there was paid the sum of Viz. Reimbursements of six per cent. deferred stock	93,686 <b>,595</b> 262,738				
Reducing the funded debt on the 1st January, 1822, to	93,423,856	67			
From that day to the let of October last, there was	50, MA 04000	07			
issued three per cent. stock to the amount of .	146	2			
Malina and an annual of the	00 400 000				
Making an aggregate of During the same period there was paid the sum of	93,423,999 380,980				
		iz.			

Viz. Reimbursement of six per cent. deferred stock	300,980	2	
Redemption of six per cent. stock of 1796	80,000	0	
Reducing the funded debt on the 1st of			93,043,019 67
It is estimated that, in the 4th quarter	of the prese	nt	
year there will be paid	•		2,265,588 7
Viz. Reimbursement of six per cent.			,
deferred stock	265,588	7	
Redemption of six per cent. stock of	200,000	•	
	a 000 000	^	
	2,000,000	U	
Which will reduce the funded debt unre	deemed on th	1e	
1st of January, 1823, to	• •		90,777,431 60
The amount of Treasury notes outstanding	g on the 1st o	of	. , ,
October, 1822, is estimated at .			27,437 0
And the amount of Mississippi stock u	nredeemed o	n	,,,
	meneemen o		ac war or
that day at	•	•	. 26,735 94

3. Of the Estimate of the Public Revenue and Expenditure for the Year 1823.

The gross amount of duties on imports and tonnage which accrued from the 1st of January to the 30th of September last, both days included, is estimated at 19,500,000 dollars, and that of the whole year at 23,000,000 dollars.

It is estimated that the amount of debentures issued during the same period exceeds the amount issued during the corresponding period of the year 1821, by 86,000; and that the amount of debentures outstanding on the 30th of September last, chargeable upon the revenue of 1823, is 234,000 dollars more than was on the same day in 1821 chargeable upon the revenue of 1822.

It is estimated the value of domestic articles exported from the United States in the year ending on the 30th of September last, has amounted to 49,874,079 dollars, and that foreign articles exported during the same period have amounted to 22,286,202 dollars.

As the receipts from the customs in the year 1823 depend, 1st, upon the amount of duty bonds which become due within that year, after deducting the expenses of collection, and the amount of debentures chargeable upon them; and, 2d, upon such portion of the duties secured in the first and second quarters of that year as are payable within the year; it is manifest that an increase in the amount of debentures chargeable upon the revenue of the year 1823, or a diminution of the importations of foreign merchandise during the two first quarters of that year, must necessarily diminish the receipts into the Treasury. As debentures can be issued at any time within twelve months after importation. chargeable upon bonds given for the duties upon such importation. it is impossible to foresee the amount which may be chargeable upon the bonds that are payable during the year 1823. The facts. however, which have been stated, justify the conclusion, that the amount of debentures which will

be issued and charged upon the revenue of 1823 will considerably exceed the amount which was chargeable upon that of 1822. From the same facts, it is also

presumed that the importations of the two first quarters of the year 1823 will be less than the corresponding quarters of the present year.

Giving due weight to all the facts conneceipts for the year 1823 may be estim	
Viz. Customs	19,000,000
Public lands	1,600,000
Bank Dividends	350,000
Arrears of internal duties and direct	
tax, and incidental receipts .	150,000
To which is to be added the sum of .	1,916,135 56
remaining in the Treasury, after	
satisfying the balances of appro-	
priations chargeable upon the re-	
venue of 1822: which makes the	•
entire means of the year 1823	
amount to	23,016,135 56
The expenditure of the year 1823 is	20,010,100 30
estimated at	15,059,597 22
	· . 10,009,597 ZZ
Viz. Civil, diplomatic, and mis-	1,599,317 35
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	1,099,017 00
Military service, including fortifica-	
tions, ordnance, Indian depart-	
ment, revolutionary and military	
pensions, arming the militia, and	
arrearages prior to the 1st of	7 104 000 FF
January, 1817	5,134,292 75
Naval service, including the gradual	0 MOO 00M 10
increase of the navy	2,723,987 12
Public debt	5,602,000 0
Which being deducted from the above so in the Treasury on the 1st day of J after satisfying the current demands of a sum estimated at	anuary, 1824,

Although the facts already disclosed justify the conclusion that the importations of the present year exceed the value of domestic articles exported during the year, yet there are no means of ascertaining the extent of that excess. If the custom-house documents were to be considered conclusive evidence upon this subject, it would be apparent that the nation has, through the whole period of its existence, imported more in value than it has exported. But the fact is incontestable that the United States have enjoyed a more uninterrupted prosperity, and have increased their capital to a greater relative extent, than

than any of the nations with whom they have maintained commercial intercourse.

To show that the custom-house documents cannot be considered conclusive evidence in this case, it is proper to observe—lst, that the value of articles paying duties ad valorem, imported into the United States, is ascertained by adding to the invoice value 20 per cent. if from beyond the Cape of Good Hope, and 10 per cent. from all other places; whilst the value of domestic articles exported is ascertained at the port of shipment without any such addition. 2d. The greatest portion of the importations and exportations are made in vessels of the United States. 3d. The capital employed in the trade of the North West Coast and the Pacific Ocean consists almost exclusively of the labour and enterprise of those engaged in it. Foreign articles, the proceeds of those enterprises, imported into the United States, are, therefore, only equivalent to the labour and enterprise by which they were procured. 4th. The value of domestic articles exported is more imperfectly ascertained than of foreign articles imported, because it has not been considered necessary to resort to the same sanctions to enforce a compliance with the regulations which have been prescribed for that purpose. To ascertain the relative value of imports and exports it is necessary -1st. That the same additions should be made to the invoice value of the latter as are required by law to be made to the former. 2d. The freight of domestic articles exported in American vessels should be added to their value, after deducting from it the freight of foreign articles imported in foreign 3d. The value of foreign vessels. articles imported in vessels engaged in the trade of the North West Coast and Pacific Ocean, the proceeds of the labour and enterprise of those by whom they are navigated, should be added to the domestic exports. 4th. It is impossible to ascertain what addition should be made to the value of the domestic exports, on account of the omission of the exporters to state correctly the value of articles exported by them; but, after making a liberal allowance for for reign articles illicitly introduced, or inaccurately invoiced, it is believed that a considerable addition should be made.

If, then, to the amount of domestic articles exported during the year ending on the 30th of September last, already estimated at 49,874,070 dollars, the additions should be made which the preceding facts and considerations appear to authorise, the value of our domestic exports during that period may be estimated at nearly 60,000,000.

Although no calculation has been completed, showing the average rate of duty upon the value of foreign articles imported into the United States, it is presumed that an importation of 60,000,000 dollars of foreign merchandise will not produce a less revenue than 17,000,000 dollars. As the receipts from the customs during the year 1813 have been estimated at 19,000,000, it is probable that the receipts from the same source, in 1824, which will depend upon the importations of 1823, will not exceed 15,000,000

dollars.

dollars. Under the most unfavourable circumstances, it is believed that the receipts of that year will

be sufficient to discharge all demands upon the Treasury which may be authorized by law.

If the current appropriations for the year 1825 shall be equal to those required by the estimates for the ensuing year, the expenditure of that year may be estimated at 28,253,597 22 Viz.—Current appropriations 8,578,722 23 Permanent appropriations for arming 378,875 0 the militia, and Indian annuities Gradual increase of the navy 500,000 0 Public debt, including balances unapplied in 1823 and 1824, amount-8,726,000 0 18,796,000 0 The means of the Treasury to meet this extraordinary expenditure, con-1st. Of the balance which may be in the Treasury on the 1st of Jan. of that year, estimated at 8,000,000 And, 2d. Of the receipts of that year, estimated at 19,000,000 17,000,000 Viz., Customs Public lands 1,600,000 Bank dividends 350,000 50**,000** Incidental receipts Making together an aggregate of 27,000,000 O

And leaving a deficit of about . . . 1,250,000 O

In this estimate the receipts and expenditure of the year 1824 are estimated to be nearly equal. is probable, however, that the receipts may exceed, to a small extent, the expenditures; but there isat least an equal probability that the receipts for the year 1825 are estimated too high. In the year 1826, the expenditure, assuming the current appropriations to be the same as in the year 1823, may be estimated at 19,457,000 dollars, and the receipts at 19,000,000 dollars. As the appropriation of 500,000 dollars for the gradual increase of the navy expires in that year, the annual expenditure may, for subsequent years, be estimated at 19,000,000 dollars, unless it shall be considered expedient to

make further provision for the increase of that essential means of national defence.

It is probable that the annual revenue will be equal to that sum. To provide for the estimated deficit of the years 1825 and 1826, as well as to meet any extraordinary demands upon the Treasury, which unforeseen exigencies may require, it is believed to be expedient that the revenue should be increased. This may be conveniently effected by a judicious revision of the tariff; which, while it will not prove onerous to the consumer, will simplify the labours of the officers of the revenue. At present, articles composed of wool, cotton, flax, and hemp, pay different rates of duty. Difficulties frequently occur in determining

termining the duties to which such articles are subject. The provision in the tariff, that the duty upon articles composed of various materials shall be regulated by the material of chief value of which it is composed, is productive of frequent embarrassment and much inconvenience. It is therefore, respectfully submitted, that all articles composed of wool, cotton, flax, hemp, or silk, or of which any of these materials is a component part, be subject to a duty of 25 per cent. ad valorem.

The duties upon glass and paper, upon iron and lead, and upon all articles composed of the two latter materials, may also be increased with a view to the augmentation of the revenue. In all these cases, except articles composed of silk, it is probable that the effect of the proposed augmentation of duties will gradually lead to an ample supply of those articles from our domestic manufactories. It is, however, presumed, that the revenue will continue to be augmented by the proposed alterations in the tariff until the public debt shall have been redeemed; after which the public expenditure in time of peace will be diminished to the extent of the sinking fund, which is, at present, 10,000,000 dollars. But if, contrary to present anticipations, the proposed augmentation of duties should, before the public debt be redeemed, produce a diminution of the revenue arising from the importation of those articles, a corresponding, if not a greater, augmentation may be confidently expected upon other articles imported into the United States. This supposition rests upon the twofold conviction, that foreign articles, nearly equal to the value of the domestic exports, will be imported and consumed; and that the substitution of particular classes of domestic articles for those of foreign nations, not only does not necessarily diminish the value of domestic exports, but usually tends to increase the value.

The duties upon various other articles, not in any degree connected with our domestic industry, may likewise be increased with a view to the augmentation of the public revenue. If the existing tariff shall, during the present session of Congress, be judiciously revised for the purpose of augmenting the revenue, it is confidently believed that it will not only be amply sufficient to defray all the demands upon the Treasury at present authorized by law, but that there will remain an annual surplus, subject to such disposition, for the promotion of the public welfare, as the wisdom of Congress may direct.

Under the act of the 20th of April last, authorizing the exchange of certain portions of the public debt for five per cent. stock, 56,704 dollars, 77c. only have been exchanged. The increased demand for capital for the prosecution of commercial enterprises during the present year, and the rise in the rate of interest consequent upon that demand, which were not anticipated at the time that the measure was proposed, have prevented its execution. Existing circumstances do not authorise the conclusion, that a measure of this nature will be more successful during the next year. the price of the public debt in 1825 should be as high as it is at present, any portion of it, redeem-

able

able at the pleasure of the government, which should be unredeemed in that and subsequent years, after the application of the sinking fund to that object, may be advantageously exchanged for stock redeemable at such periods as to give full operation to the sinking fund. This may be effected either directly by an exchange of stock, or indirectly by authorizing a loan to the amount of stock annually redeemable beyond the amount of the sinking fund applicable to that object.

All which is respectfully sub-

mitted.

WILLIAM H. CRAWFORD. Treasury Department,

Dec. 23, 1823.

The following Document should have had an earlier place.

CIRCULAR.

" Verona, Dec. 14, 1822. "Sir,-You were informed by the documents which were addressed to you at the moment of the closing of the conferences at Laybach, in the month of May 1821. that another meeting of the Allied Monarchs and their Cabinets would take place in the course of the year 1822, and that they would then take into consideration the duration to be fixed to the measures, which, on the proposal of the Courts of Naples and Turin, and with the consent of all the Courts of Italy. had been judged necessary to consolidate the tranquillity of the Peninsula, after the fatal events of the years 1820 and 1821.

"This meeting has just taken place, and we berewith make you acquainted with its principal results.

"By the convention, signed at Novara, July 24, 1821, the occupation of a military line on Piedmont, by a corps of auxiliary

troops, had been fixed to the term of one year, with the understanding, that at the meeting of 1822 it should be examined whether the situation of the country should permit it to cease, or render it necessary to prolong it.

"The Plenipotentiaries of the Courts, parties to the convention of Novara, have entered on this examination conjointly with the Plenipotentiaries of his Majesty the King of Sardinia, and they have agreed, that the assistance of an allied force was no longer necessary to maintain the tranquillity of Piedmont. His Majesty the King of Sardinia, having himself pointed out the time which he thought proper for the successive departure of the auxiliary troops, the Allied Sovereigns have acceded to his proposals, and it has been determined by a new convention, that the departure of these troops from Piedmont shall commence on the 31st of December. this year, and be completed on the 30th of September, 1823, by the evacuation of the fortress of Alessandria.

"On the other hand, his Majesty the King of the Two Sicilies. has signified to the three Courts, parties to the convention signed at Naples on the 18th of October, that the present state of his dominions allowed him to propose a reduction of the number of the auxiliary troops stationed in various parts of them.

"The Allied Sovereigns have not hesitated to accede to this proposal, and the auxiliary army stationed in the kingdom of the Two Sicilies will be diminished as soon as possible by 17,000 men.

"Thus, in proportion as events answered to the wishes of the Sovereigns, that is fulfilled which

they declared at the close of the Congress of Laybach-' that, far from wishing to prolong their intervention in the affairs of Italy beyond the limits of strict necessity, they cherished the sincerest wish that the state of things which had imposed on them this painful obligation might cease as soon as possible, and never return. Thus vanish the false terrors, the inimical interpretations, the gloomy prophecies, which ignorance or perfidy spread in Europe, to mislead the opinion of the people respecting the pure and generous views of the Sovereigns. No secret plan, no ambition, no calculation of their own interest, was concerned in the resolution which imperious necessity alone prescribed to them in the year 1821. To oppose resistance to the revolution; to prevent the disorders, the scourges, the crimes, which it desired to bring upon all Italy; to restore peace and order in that country; to afford to the legitimate Governments the protection to which they had a claim; --such alone were the objects of the thoughts and exertions of the Sovereigns. In the proportion in which this object is fulfilled, they withdraw the assistance which essential necessity alone could call for and justify, and will continue to withdraw it. They rejoice at being able to leave the care of the security and tranquillity of the people to the Princes to whom Providence has intrusted them, and to deprive calumny of its last remaining pretext to disseminate doubts respecting the independence of the Italian Princes.

"The object of the Congress at Verona, as it had been fixed by a positive agreement, was accomplished by the resolutions taken for the relief of Italy: but the assembled Sovereigns and Cabinets could not but turn their attention to difficult and intricate affairs, the progress of which had incessantly engaged them ever since their meeting at Laybach.

"An event of the greatest importance had taken place before the close of that meeting. What the spirit of revolution had begun in the western peninsula, what it had attempted in Italy, it succeeded in effecting at the eastern extremity of Europe. At the moment when the military insurrection in Naples and Turin yielded at the approach of a regular force, a firebrand of rebellion was thrown into the Ottoman Empire. The coincidence of the events could leave no doubt on the sameness of their origin. The breaking out of the same evil in so many different points, and every where, though under various pretexts, yet accompanied by the same forms and the same language, too evidently betrayed the common focus from which it proceeded. Those who directed this event had flattered themselves that they would use it to confound by discord the counsels of the Powers, and to neutralize the forces which new dangers might summon to other parts of This hope was disap-Europe. The Monarchs, resolved pointed. to repel the maxim of rebellion, in whatever place or under whatever form it might show itself, immediately pronounced their unanimous sentence of disapprobation upon it. Devoted with unceasing attention to the object of their common cares, they withstood every consideration which might have led them aside from their path; but at the same time they followed the

voice

voice of their conscience, and a sacred duty, and spoke for the cause of humanity, in favour of the victims of an enterprise equally rath and criminal.

"The numerous confidential communications that took place between the four Courts during this period (one of the most remarkable in the history of this alliance) having led to a perfectly satisfactory understanding with respect to the affairs of the East, nothing remained to be done at the Congress of Verona, but to confirm the results of this understanding; and the Powers allied with Russia may flatter themselves with removing by joint proceedings, the obstacles which still impeded the entire fulfilment of their wishes.

" Other events, deserving of the entire attention of the Monarchs. have fixed their attention on the deplorable condition of the eastern

European peninsula.

"Spain now endures the fate which awaits all states that are so unfortunate as to seek what is good in a way in which it never can be formd.

"It passes through the fateful circle of its revolution—a revolution which deluded or ill-disposed men would willingly have represented as a blessing, nay, as the triumph of an enlightened age. All Governments are witnesses of the zeal with which these men have endeavoured to persuade their contemporaries that this revolution was the necessary and wholesome fruit of the progress of civilization; and the means by which it has been effected and supported, the noblest essay of generous patriot-If it could be the object of civilization to overthrow human society, if it were possible to suppose that the armed force, which has no other vocation than that of maintaining the internal and external peace of the State, might with impunity assume the supreme dominion over it, the Spanish revolution might certainly pretend to the admiration of all ages, and the military insurrection in the island of Leon serve as a model for reformers. But truth has soon asserted her rights, and Spain, at the expense of her happiness and ber glory, has only furnished a new and melancholy example of the inevitable consequence of every transgression of the eternal laws of the moral order of the world.

"The legitimate authority fettered, and changed into a forced instrument of the overthrow of all rights, and all legal privileges; all classes of the people harried away by the stream of revolutionary movement; violence and oppression exercised under the forms of law; a whole kingdom given up a prey to disorders and convulsions of every kind; rich colonies which justify their separation by the very same maxims on which the mother country has founded its public law, and which it would willingly, but in vein, condemn in another hemisphere; the last resources of the State consumed by civil war; this is the picture which the present state of Spain presents -such are the evils by which a generous people, deserving of a better fate, is vinited—such, in fine, are the grounds of the just apprehensions which such an assemblage of elements of trouble and confusion must excite in the countries more nearly in contact with the Peninsula. If ever in the bosom of civilization a power arose hostilely alienated from the principles

ciples of preservation, from the principles in which the European Confederation reposes, such a power is Spain, in its present state of disolution.

" Could the Sovereigns have contemplated with indifference so many evils heaped upon one country, accompanied with so many dangers to the others? Depending in this important affair only on their own judgment and their own consciences, they have been obliged to ask themselves whether they were longer allowed to remain calm spectators of an evil which every day threatens to become more terrible and dangerous, and even by the presence of their representatives to lend the false colouring of a tacit sanction to the measures of a faction, which is ready to undertake every thing for the maintenance of its destructive sway. The decision of the Monarchs could not be doubtful. Their legations have received orders to quit the Peninsula.

"Whatever may be the consequence of this step, the Monarchs thereby prove to Europe, that nothing can induce them to waver in a resolution which their most intimate conviction has approved. The more sincere the friendship is which they feel towards his Majesty the King of Spain, the more lively their interest in the welfare of a nation which has distinguished itself by so many virtues at all periods of its history, the more strongly have they felt the necessity of adopting the measures on which they have decided, and which they shall know how to

"The preceding view will give you the conviction that the Mo-

narchs in their last negotiations have not departed from the principles to which they have remained unalterably faithful, in all the great questions relative to order and preservation, to which the events of our times have given such great importance. union, essentially founded on these principles, fostering its early character, obtains from one period to another more solidity and energy. It would be superfluous farther to defend their upright and benevolent intentions against unworthy calumnies, which are daily refuted by notorious facts. All Europe must at length acknowledge that the system pursued by the Monarchs is in the most perfect harmony with the well understood interests of the people, as well as with the independence and strength of the Governments. They recognize no enemies but those who conspire against the legal authority of the one, and the simplicity of the others, to plunge both into one common abyss of destruction. The wishes of the Monarchs are directed to peace alone; but this peace. though fully established between the Powers, cannot diffuse its blessings on society, as long as the fermentation is kept up, which in more than one country inflames people's minds by the perfidious arts of persuasion, and the criminal efforts of a faction which aims only at revolution and destruction: so long as the heads and instruments of this faction (whether they openly take the field against thrones and existing institutions. or whether they brood on their hostile plans in the dark, prepare plots, and poison public opinion) shall not cease to forment the nations with discouraging and lying representations of the present, and fictitious apprehensions of the fu-The wisest measures of the ture. Governments cannot prosper, the best meant plans of improvement cannot succeed, confidence cannot return, till those promoters of the most odious purposes shall have sunk into utter impotency; and the Monarchs will not believe that they have accomplished their great work, till they shall have deprived them of the arms with which they may threaten the repose of the world.

"In communicating to the Cabinet to which you are accredited, the facts and declarations which are contained in the present document, you will at the same time call to mind what the Monarchs consider as the indispensable condition of the fulfilment of their benevolent wishes. To ensure to Europe not only the peace which it enjoys under the protection of treaties, but also that sense of internal repose and durable security without which no real happiness can exist for nations, they must calculate on the faithful and persevering co-operation of all the Governments. They here call on them for this co-operation in the name of their own highest interests, in the name of social order, the preservation of which is at stake, in the name of future generations. May they be all penetrated with the great truth, that the power confided to their hands is a sacred trust, for which they are accountable to the people and to their posterity; and they expose themselves to a serious responsibility, when they fall into errors, or listen to counsels which would sooner or later deprive them of the

possibility of protecting their sanjects from the ruin which they had themselves prepared for them. The Monarchs have the confidence that they shall every where find true allies in those who are invested with the supreme authority, under whatever forms it may be allies, who do homage not merely to the letter and the positive precepts of the conventions which form the basis of the present European system, but also to their spirit and principles; and they flatter themselves that the words here spoken will be received as a new confirmation of their firm and unalterable resolution to consecrate all the means intrusted to them by Providence to promote the welfare of Europe.

Agricultural Distress in Scotland. A number of counties in Scotland (Argyll, Banff, Caithness, Cromarty, Dumbarton, Elgin, Fife, Forfar, Lanark, Mid-Lothian, Renfrew, Sutherland, and Wigton) had appointed committees to meet at Edinburgh, for the purpose of considering the agricultural distresses of the country, and the means of relieving them; and a meeting of the General Committee was held at the Waterloo Hotel, on Monday, the 23d of December. 1822, the Right Hon. Sir John Sinclair, Bart., in the chair, when he laid before that committee, a report drawn up by a sub-committee, appointed by a former general meeting on the 16th of December, which consisted of the following members:—The Earl of Roseberry, Lord Belhaven, Sir Henry Steuart, Bart. of Allanton, John Vans Agnew, Esq. of Sheuchan, Gilbert Laing Meason, Esq. of Linderris, George Robertson Scott.

Scott, Eaq. of Benholm, Sir Juhn Sinclair, Bart., Chairman.

After some discussion, the following Report was unanimously approved of:

REPORT.

The Sub-Committee beg leave to express the opinions they have formed, on the important subject referred to them, in the following order:—

- That one great cause of the present agricultural distress arises from the rapid alterations that took place in the currency, in consequence of the act 59 Geo. III. c. 49, which has increased the real value of all money payments, rendered the prices of all the productions of the soil disproportionally low, and occasioned a want of sufficient circulating medium in the country; thereby augmenting, to a great degree, the heavy pressure of taxation, and of other burdens affecting those classes who are now suffering; and hence that many persons, who have entered into money engagements, are involved in obligations which they cannot fulfil without ruin to themselves and their families.
- 2. That if the provision of the said act (59 Geo. III. c. 49), by which "all the restrictions on payments in cash shall finally cease and determine on the 1st of May, 1823," be carried into effect, it is likely greatly to aggravate the severe distress now existing; and that Parliament, therefore, should be petitioned to direct their earliest attention to that enactment.
- 3. That the hardships and disadvantages resulting from the sudden alteration in the currency before mentioned, appear to the committee to have been considerably increased by the concurrent ope-1823.

ration of the coinage act (56 Geo. III. c. 68), by which, in consequence of the regulations for the silver coinage, gold is made the sole legal tender for payments except to the amount of 40s.

4. That a remission of taxation, as far as is consistent with the public safety and interests, and with the preservation of the national faith; and (where practicable) the substitution of taxes which would press more equally upon the whole community, in the room of some which are severely felt by those whose incomes (now greatly reduced) are derived from land, would be a great source of relief.

5. That it would be very desirable to have country banks established in England and Ireland, on principles similar to those adopted in Scotland, which, by augmenting the circulation, and placing it on a footing of security, would confer an essential benefit upon every part of the United Kingdom, whose interests are now so closely combined.

6. That although the Committee do not venture to recommend, in the present situation of the country, that any fresh provisions should be introduced into the corn laws, as now established, they are of opinion that the permission to warehouse foreign grain in this kingdom has an effect very prejudicial to the wholesome and intended operation of those laws.

7. That by improvements in the distillery laws, an adequate reduction of the duty on spirits, and more freedom to the trade, a much larger consumption of grain would take place than at present—the revenue would be increased—a better quality of spirits made—and the fraudulent practices which now accom-

2 H pany

pany distillation, with their demoralizing effects, would be prevented or diminished; and that by adopting also a better system for the manufacture and sale of beer. the consumption of that article, and consequently of barley, would be greatly increased.

The meeting then resolved-"That a copy of the proceedings" of this day be transmitted to the convener of every county in Scotland, with a request that he shall. take the earliest opportunity in his power of calling a county meeting, to take the same into its immediate consideration."

On the motion of Lord Succoth, seconded by the honourable Lieutenant-general Duff, the thanks of the meeting were voted to the Sub-committee, for having conducted the business referred to them with so much zeal, prudence, and ability.

Upon the thanks being voted to the Chairman, he expressed his great satisfaction that the business had been brought to so happy a conclusion, and his full conviction, if the proceedings of that day were acted upon energetically, by the counties of Scotland, that consequences highly useful to the country at large might be confidently relied on. He particularly alluded to the plan of making silver, jointly with gold, a legal tender by means of which alone, owing to the low price of silver (4s. 11d. per ounce) compared to its Mint price (5s. 6d. per ounce), an addition would be made, at the rate of nearly 12 per cent. to the prices of all agricultural productions: and another most important object, an increase of circulation, would likewise be obtained—for the issuers of paper money would be enabled to main-

tain in circulation a larger amount, when, instead of being compelled to pay exclusively in gold at 31. 17s. 10d. per ounce, they could, in their option, pay in silver, at the rate of 5s. 6d. per ounce. He added, that either silver alone, or jointly with gold, had been a legal tender in this country from the most ancient periods of its history, till the Bank Restriction and the Coinage Act of 1816, when, for the first time, gold was made exclusively, except for payments under 40s., the standard of value.

Extracts of a Despatch from the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland to Mr. Secretary Peel, dated Dublin Custle, 8th April, 1823, with Copies of the Enclosures; presented to both Houses of Parliament by command of his Majesty, April 16, 1823.

In my despatch, under date the 29th January, 1823, I expressed my expectation (apparently justified by the improvement which had at that time taken place in the state of the country) of a gradual approach towards a state of greater tranquillity and peace in the southern districts lately disturbed.

Subsequent events have diseppointed that expectation, and during the month of March the system of outrage has been pursued in parts of the province of Munster with increased activity and vigour, and has reached other parts of the country which had been nearly exempt from disturbance.

The earliest information conveyed to me of any considerable increase of outrage in Munster, was the first weekly report in March of the police magistrate in the county of Cork; from which. it appeared, that during that per

riod

riod five malicione conflagrations and twelve outrages of different descriptions had taken place within the district committed to his charge. From that period to the present time, scarcely a night has elapsed in which within those districts some house or property has not been destroyed by fire, or in which attempts have not been made by the insurgents to enforce the penalties previously denounced against all those who resist the authority of these desperate offenders.

Notwithstanding the most unremitting exertions on the part of the military and the police to intercept those by whom these crimes are committed, few persons have been apprehended. Conflagrations are so easily effected, even by one skilful offender, and the system of terror has been so armly established on the minds of the inhabitants of these districts, that the detection of the crime is become a matter of extreme difficulty.

Early in the month of March, Lord Combermere, with my approbation, visited the principalmilitary stations in Munster, and also conferred with the Magistrates in the vicinity of Doneraile, and in the disturbed districts in that part of the county of Cork.

At his Lordship's suggestion, and at the desire of the Magistrates, a large additional force of police (under the new act) has been stationed in that country, and the military force has been distributed in the manner best calculated to aid the restoration of order.

It is a great satisfaction to me to be able to add, that the greatest cordiality subsists between the military and the magistracy, gentry, and inhabitants, and that Lord Combermere expresses his highest approbation of the condition and conduct of his Majesty's troops in Munster.

In Limerick, which had been restored to tranquillity, instances of similar crimes have latterly appeared; and parts of the county of Clare have been so much agitated as to require the application of the Insurrection Act to two of the baronies which adjoin the county of Limerick. The state of that part of the country, and the reason which led to the proclamation of these additional baronies, are explained in the annexed extract of a letter from Sergeant Torrens. and in the accompanying communication of Major Warburton, the police magistrate for the county of Clare.

An increased spirit of outrage has at the same time been manifested in parts of the county of Westmeath, and the Queen's County; and upon a review of the reports received from the other less agitated counties of Ireland (with the exception of the province of Ulster and part of Connaught), crimes of an insurrectionary character appear to be more frequent.

The causes of the sudden increase of this description of erime have not been sufficiently developed to enable me to furnish you with any determined judgment on that most interesting point.

The present mischief has been attributed to the greater maturity of that system of combination for the destruction of property which has so long prevailed in Ireland; a temporary cause is stated to be the general expiration of leases, which occurs at this period of the year, and which usually leads to acts of disturbance (if not of a more destructive character) against

2 H 2 those

those who occupy the farms from which previous tenants have been

ejected.

In the mean while I am convinced that the wisdom of his Majesty's Government, and of Parliament, will not delay the renewal of the Insurrection Act. It is a painful but undeniable truth, that the mere circumstance of the unavoidable delay in the renewal of that law, has been converted by the secret instigators of confusion into an encouragement to the deluded populace of the South, who have been taught to believe that the law will not be renewed; and that its restraints will no longer be opposed to the progress of their crimes.

Extract of a Letter from Sergeant Torrens, dated Limerick, March 28, 1823.

I regret to be obliged to state, that within the last three weeks, frequent nightly burnings of houses, cattle, and haggards, have taken place in this county, and particularly within the liberties of the city; and the state of tranquillity which this district enjoyed (comparatively) during the winter, has been much interrupted. The insurgents appear to proceed upon an organized system of exciting terror, and preventing any transfer of property disagreeable to themselves by means of conflagration; and I now feel it necessary strictly to put in force, as the only means of counteracting their designs, the provisions of the act against personsapprehended abroad at night, or not found within their dwellings. On this principle there have been already some useful convictions, and in three cases there is every reason to believe that the

persons who were actually concerned in the outrages have been punished. The conviction Thursday in the City Court of a person of the name of Halloran, a notorious leader among the disaffected, will, I trust, be attended with good results. I beg to convey through you, Sir, my opinion to his Excellency, that I consider it of material consequence to the peace of the country that the bill for the continuing the Insurrection Act should be brought into the house at an early period of the Session. I am persuaded the certainty that the act was to be continued, would have considerable effect in disconcerting the plans of the disaffected, and giving confidence to the loyal; and I know that the period of the Session, to which the discussion of the measure was postponed last year, was injurious.

I had intended to have addressed some observations to his Excellency on the necessity of continuing the bill for another year, even if the country had remained reasonably tranquil; but the occurrences which have taken place since I had an interview with his Excellency, put all discussion as to the propriety of its re-enactment out of the question, and make it, in my judgment, imperative to re-enact the law, and that speedily.

The want of troops, which was felt so much during the winter, prevents the supply of a sufficient number of men for patrols, which are peculiarly necessary at this crisis.

Limerick, March 18, 1823.

My dear Sir,—It occurs to me that it might be agreeable to you that I should address you by letter, notwithstanding our personal conference on the subject of the disturbances in the county of Clare; and I shall commence with the expression of my deep regret, that it should be necessary to make the representation which I have done to his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, or that I should be forced to admit the opinion that it was necessary to apply to the Insurrection Act.

It has been my pride, that although in the midst of surrounding disturbance for a considerable period, I had hitherto been able to preserve the peace of my district, without resorting to a measure which I know the constitutional feeling of his Excellency has a repugnance to, unless where it appears to be called for by imperious necessity.

I shall, as briefly as possible, detail to you my motives for forming an opinion on the necessity of the measure, and also the mode of proceeding previous to the memorial being sent up to the Lord Lieutenant.

It is unnecessary to detail the various outrages which have occurred, and which you have seen the disposition to. I shall only observe, that another burning, on the same system, was perpetrated last night, in the neighbourhood of Six Mile Bridge, and Barony of Bun-The occupying tenant of a farm had given his holding up to Colonel O'Brien, and he sent a man in his employment to occupy the house, on yesterday evening; and in about three hours afterwards the house was set on fire and consumed: the family fortunately escaped. My police and a party of the 93d regiment arrived there almost immediately; they could not see any person, nor could they

save the premises. You are aware that the North Liberties of Limerick adjoin that part of the county of Clare where these outrages have occurred; and they have been comparatively quiet since they have been proclaimed: there is no boundary but the legal one between those places; and as every exertion has been made to preserve tranquillity in that neighbourhood, without effect, I am induced to think that the only means left is to adopt this painful alternative.

It may be asked, why the constabulary bill has not been tried? And to this I answer, and may with confidence say, that no new force of police could be so efficient as those now in that county; their efficiency will, I am sure, be acknowledged by every gentleman in the county; and consequently, if they could not succeed, it is scarcely possible that others could be ex-As I am exceedpected to do so. ing anxious that every possible latitude should be given to discussion on this subject in the county, I went to the Grand Jury-room immediately on their being sworn, and stated to them the situation of that district: I told them that my object in doing so was that they might, whilst the county was assembled at assizes, make every inquiry into the state of the county, and consider what could be done to restore order. They agreed to have a meeting of the Grand Jury and Magistrates on the Wednesday following, and to consider the matter again. On that day there was a very considerable discussion, and it was then resolved to give the legal notice for a meeting to memorial the Lord Lieutenant. must observe, that there was very

great

part of the magistrates to arrive at the conclusion; and that on their part, as well as my own, every thing has been done to warn the peasantry of the consequence of their persevering in outrage. Several meetings took place, and printed notices were posted up, to assure them that the magistrates would only be driven to this measure by their illegal proceedings.

In the interval since the memorial went up, and the absence of any outrage until last night, I was still anxious at least for postponement; and I asked two or three respectable and intelligent magistrates confidentially, if they thought we might try to get on without the proclamation; but their opinion was decidedly that they feared the people would think we were trifling with them; and as we had so repeatedly cautioned them, and they still persevered in defiance of our forbearance, they might think that there was some cause for the refusal: in truth, the only difference of opinion on the subject was as to the boundary of the proclaimed district. I am anxious to detail to you, by letter, the leading circumstances of our proceedings, in order that you may estimate how far they are consistent with my view of the case.

I fear you will think I have been too prolix; but on a subject which I know the Lord Lieutenant feels of deep importance, I think it hete ter to err on the side of detail, than af conciseness. I will only add, that I approach this subject with feelings of great concern, and I trust his Excellency will not suppose that I would either relax in any effort to avert it, or that I would offer an opinion that I

did not feel I had grounds for deing, on the most anxious and deliberate consideration. (Signed) GEO-WARBURTON, C. M.

## Lord Holland's Protest.

After the debate and division in the House of Lords on the 23d of April, several Peers who had voted in the minerity signed a dissentient, and Lord Holland entered the following protest to the rejection of Lord Ellenborough's motion:—

1st. Because it appears that we have been baffled in all our endeavours, deceived by some and disregarded by other of our Allies, and that the influence of Great Britain on the Continent has declined to a degree inconsistent with the vaunted ascendancy of our Councils at the general pacification of Europe, as well as humiliating to the feelings and injurious to the interests of the country.

2dly. Because the failure of our endeayours to prevent a continental war, is to be traced to error in judgment and want of firmness in the negotiation. Those objections to the designs of France, which a friendly anxiety for the independence of Portugal should have suggested, and which a due regard for our own welfare and even safety should have excited, were either studiously concealed or pusillanimously softened down during the whole discussion. negotiators were tender to the aggressors, distant, cold, and even unjust to the aggrieved, feeble in their remonstrances against the iniquity, earnest in their representations of the inexpediency and danger of the meditated war, as if the honour of the house of Bourbon. and the prosperity of France, were the exclusive objects of an English. minister's

'minister's solicitude; and the balance of power, the protection of allies, and even the interests of Great Britain herself, were but secondary considerations.

8dly. Because it was inconsistent with our professed disapprobation of interference, derogatory to the character of impartial mediators, and unfriendly to Spain, to suggest any alterations in her internal government, with a view of .allaying the fears or saving the honour of France. Moreover. those suggestions, highly objectionable in principle, held out no certain prospect of advantage to Spain. It does not appear that we were ever authorised to assure her. that on the adoption of the modifications we recommended, France would desist from further demands, -and disband the army on, her frontiers; on the other hand, we were mot prepared to enter into any engagements for the protection of Spain, if her consent to the alterations in her constitution so suggested by us had proved insufficient to avert the hostility of France.

4thly. Because if Spain had been inclined to adopt the suggested modifications, as improvements, in her constitution, and could she have done so with honour after the menacing language and conduct of foreign Powers on that subject, yet it was notorious that other and serious obstacles stend in the way of any such adjustment. Her laws forbade any proposal of innovation on the constitution of 1812, for a period of time which has not yet elapsed; and the members of her Government had taken an oath to .abide by that injunction. Prudence, therefore, as well as religion and principle, deterred them from complying with our ill-timed and

officious advire. A Government engaged in the great work of restoring and consolidating the ancient liberties of its people, could not violate a recent and fundamental law, without staking the confidence of mankind in the stability of its inetitution, and without furnishing at a moment of much irritation and some civil disturbances, new grounds for distrust and suspicion, and fresh motives for division and disunion.

5thly. Because a firm determination on the part of his Majesty's Government to resist all hostile aggression against Spain, and an early and manly avowal of such determination, would, in all probability, have counteracted that odious defiance of public law which a great Northern Power is so forward to profess, and so anxious to inculcate, and might have diverted the French King from those injquitous and ambitious projects which the course pursued by our Ministers has not prevailed upon him to abandon.

6thly, and lastly. Because the neutrality of England during a contest between France and Spain must be extremely precarious. Should France prove successful, events would ensue which-would either involve us in immediate hostilities, or materially impair the sources of our prosperity in peace: the revival of the family compact; the exclusion of our commerce from all the possessions of both the branches of the House of Bourbon; the exposure of Portugal to menace, invasion, and sub-.jugation; the expedition of combined armaments for the recovery of South America; and the military escendancy of France, on those very coasts from which the most vulnerable

vulnerable parts of our empire are

accessible.

On the other hand, should Spain, by the nature of the war, be provoked to commit acts of violence and outrage within her own territories, and to engage in a species of warfare fully authorised by the law of self-preservation, but peculiarly obnoxious at this moment to the other, Powers of the Contiment-viz. the encouragement of insurrections and revolution in France—we are not so blind to the lessons of experience, as not to apprehend that compassion for individuals, and participation in the fears of other States, may again, in spite of our intended neutrality, involve us (as it has done before) in an extensive war of opinion, alike repugnant to the principles of our constitutional government and to every maxim of ancient English policy.

Even if those dangers be avoided, a protracted warfare between two maritime powers, possessing such an extent of coast as France and Spain, will expose our merchants to innumerable vexations and injuries, which in all probability must sooner or later embroil us with one

of the belligerents.

## The Duke of Buckingham and Farmer Deller.

The following petition to the House of Commons was ordered to be printed on the 24th of April:—

"To the Honourable the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled.

The petition of Richard Deller, farmer, of the parish of Easton, in the county of Hants, complaining of the conduct of three Justices of the Peace, the Duke

of Buckingham, the Reverend Robert Wright, and the Reverend Edmand Poulter.

" Most humbly sheweth,

"That the farm occupied by your petitioner in the parish aferesaid, is bounded in some parts by lands of the Duke of Buckingham; and that the geme preserved by the Duke does your petitioner an injury yearly to the amount of from

thirty to sixty pounds.

"That on the 19th of February, and on the 6th of March last, your petitioner was out on his farm, with a party of his friends (to whom the greyhounds belonged) coursing hares, having full liberty from his own landlord to sport on the farm; that informations were laid against him by a gamekeeper of the Duke of Buckingham; that as to the first day, your petitioner proved the owner of the dogs to be qualified, and that therefore no penalty lay against him; that as to the second day, your petitioner was summoned to appear before a Justice of the Peace, and, to the great surprise of your petitioner, this Justice of the Prace was the Duke of Buckingham himself, who summoned your petitioner to appear before him, at his house at Avington, in the said county.

"That thus, John Roberts, a gamekeeper and a servant of the Duke, stood as informer, and George White, another gamekeeper, and servant to the Duke, stood as witness; and the Duke himself, the employer of that informer and of that witness, sat as

judge.

"That your petitioner thus appeared before this singular tribunal on the first day of this present month of April; that the day before

fore a compromise was offered to your petitioner, in the Duke's name, by his steward; that this compromise was not accepted, because the Duke would not agree to pay for the damage that might be done to your petitioner by his game.

"That, when your petitioner went to answer the summons, he took a friend with him to be witness of what might pass; that the Duke would not permit this friend to enter the room until the said friend had declared that he was neither barrister nor attorney; that the Duke had with him an attorney named Woodham; that your petitioner wished his friend to write down an account of what passed; but that the Duke forbade him to do it.

"That your petitioner could have brought witnesses to prove that he ought not to pay the penalty for which he was prosecuted; that he demanded to have such witnesses examined; but that the Duke refused to suffer him to call such witnesses, unless he would state beforehand what questions he meant to put to such witnesses; that your petitioner refused to do this; and that therefore the said witnesses were not called.

"That upon your petitioner's entering the room where the Duke was sitting as Justice of the Peace, he was, before any proceedings had taken-place, told by the said Duke, that if he uttered one impertinent word, there was a constable in the room to take him to 'jail or to the stocks."

"That, thus threatened in this manner at the outset, deprived of the evidence that he could have called, if he had been free so to do, he was, by this said Duke, sitting as Justice of the Peace to decide

on an information laid by his own servant, and that, too, after this Justice's steward had offered a compromise to your petitioner; thus, under these circumstances, was your petitioner convicted in the penalty of five pounds, for being in pursuit of hares on his own farm, on which these hares feed, and where they do him damage yearly to the amount of from thirty to sixty pounds; and this, too, while your petitioner has to pay a part of those county-rates and those poor-rates which are occasioned by the prosecutions and punishments for the preservation of game.

"That your humble petitioner has heard much talk about the liberty and property of Englishmen; but that, to his plain understanding, a state of slavery so complete as that in which he has the misfortune to live, cannot be found in any other country in the world; for, though the ingenuity and caprices of tyranny are infinite, he believes that, in the utmost wantonness of its insolence, it never before compelled a man to pay rates for the preservation of animals that ate up his crops; to do this because those animals afforded sport; and to submit to punishment for attempting to partake in that sport.

"That, while your petitioner was thus treated by a Duke Justice of the Peace, two Parson Justices treated him in the following manner:—

"That, on the 10th of this instant month of April, a servant of the Duke of Buckingham, having three dogs with him, entered the lands of your petitioner; that your petitioner demanded his name, which he refused to give, and refused to give any account of himself whatever; that your petitioner

told him, that, unless he told his name, he would take him before a Magistrate; that he still refused; that your petitioner then took him by force, and conducted him to the house of the Rev. Robert Wright, a Justice of the Peace, at Itchen Abbas, about two miles from the spot where the trespasser was seized; that the said Rev. Robert Wright refused to hear the complaint of your petitioner, saying that he would not hear it till the next day, and then at Winchester, where his clerk was; that your petitioner went the next day to Winchester, and that then the Rev. Robert Wright still refused to hear your petitioner, and told him that he must come to the Bench at Winchester the next day : that your petitioner went to the Bench, where the Reverend Edmund Poulter presided, and where were present the said Reverend Robert Wright and Mr. William Neville; that your petitioner now found that he was to be treated as a criminal instead of an injured party; that the servant of the Duke was permitted by these Justices to swear an assault against your petitioner, and your petitioner was actually bound over accordingly; that your petitioner remonstrated against this, and appealed to the act of Parliament, passed in the first year of the present King's reign, and being the 56th chapter of that year; that your petitioner showed the said Justices that, agreeably to the third section of that act, he was fully authorised to seize the said servant, and to take him before a Justice; that, notwithstanding this, the said Justices compelled your petitioner to enter into recognizances as aforesaid, on pain of being sent to gaol; that yeur petitioner demanded that his complaint against the Duke's servant should be first heard, seeing that he had been the first complainant, and had been compelled to go so many miles backwards and forwards, and to lose so much time on the business; but that he said Justices persisted in refusing to hear the complaint of your petitioner, until after they had heard the servant of the Duke, and had compelled your petitioner to give bail.

" That when this had been done, the said William Neville quitted the bench, leaving the said Rev. Edmund Poulter and the said Rev. Robert Wright on the bench; that your petitioner then applied to these two Justices for redress against the said servant of the Duke; that they heard his complaint; but that they refused to decide at that time, and put off your petitioner again until the next Saturday; that your petitioner, wearied with journeys on account of this business, and seeing no hope of obtaining redress, resolved to appear before these Justices no more, and to lay a statement of his case before your honourable house.

"Your honourable house need not be reminded, that the act, just mentioned, of the first year of the King, was passed expressly for the insuring of 'a more summary mode of repressing and obtaining satisfaction for damages dene to land, &c. When, therefore, your bonourable house shall have duly considered the conduct of the said Rev. Robert Wright and Edmund Poulter, the delays, the procrestinations, the trouble and expense of your petitioner, and especially the binding of your petitioner over for the assault, though the very path

con which that bail was demanded proved that your petitioner had not been guilty of an assault, but had acted in strict conformity to the law; when your honourable house thail have duly considered these things, your petitioner will not doubt of your disposition to cause justice to be done to him.

"Your petitioner, pledging himself to prove the above alleged facts at the bar of your honourable house, if you will be pleased to permit him so to do, most humbly

prays,

"1. That you will be pleased to permit him to produce such

proofs at your bar.

"2. That you will so alter the game-laws as to enable all occupiers of land to kill any wild animals on the land they occupy; that you will take out of this code the punishment of death and transportation; and that, at any rate, you will cause the expense of punishing peachers, and of keeping their wives and children, to be borne exclusively by those who prosecute them.

"3. That you will be pleased to pass a law to prevent Ministers of the Churck of England from being Justices of the Peace; and for preventing any Justices from acting, as such, under the game-laws, where their own servants ato the informers and witnesses.

"And your petitioner will ever pray,

"R. DELLER."

#### IIIS MAJESTY'S CORONATION.

An account of the money expended at his Majesty's Coronation, stating the amount, under the several heads, expended, and from what sources the money was supplied:—

Lord Steward, expenses attending the banquet.  Lord Chamberlain, for the furniture and decorations of Westminster Abbey, and Westminster Hall; for providing the regalia; for dresses, &c. of the persons attending and performing various	£25,184	9	8
duties	111,172	9	10
Master of the Horse, for the charger for the Cham-	•		
pion	118	18	6
Master of the Robes, for his Majesty's robes, &c.	24,704	0	10
Surveyor-General of Works, for fitting up Westmin-			
ster Abbey and Westminster Hall, platforms, &c.	50 <b>,36</b> 7	9	1
W. D. Fellowes, Esq. Secretary to his Majesty's			
Great Chamberlain, for expenses incurred .	2,500	0	0
Hire of the theatres	3,504	15	0
Master of the Mint, for medals	4,770	5	4
Sir George Nayler, for expenses in the Earl Mar-			
shal's department	2,500	0	0
Sir George Nayler, towards the publication of the	•		
account of the ceremony	3,000	0	0

Deputy Earl Marshal, usu	al fee		•			800	0	0
Sir R. Baker, expense of p Sir T. Tyrwhit, for mess		and	door		Dere	981	18	10
House of Lords .	•	•	•	• :	•	178	2	6
Messrs. Rundell and Brid reign Ministers .	ge, tor	snui •	i-box •	es foi	· Fo-	8,205	15	0
Earl of Kinnoul, on acc	ount c	of Pu	rsuiv	ants	and	•		
Heralds in Scotland	•	•	•	•	•	254	7	7
						£238,238	0	2
Note.—A few claims are	still un	settle	d, th	e am	ount			
probably not exceeding		•	•	•	•	£1,000	0	0
Paid out of the sum vote	d by	Parli	amen	t, in	the			_
Session 1820 .		•	•	•	•	£100,000	0	0
Paid out of money received of pecuniary indemnity,						138,238	0	2
						£238,238	0	2

Whitehall Treasury Chambers, May 27, 1823.

J. C. HERRIES.

Abstract of the Net Produce of the Revenue of Great Britain in the Years and Quarters ended the 10th of October, 1822, and the 10th of October, 1823, shewing the Increase or Decrease on each head thereof.

	Year ende	od Oct. 10.	<b>T</b>	Deamage	
	1822.	1823.	Increase.	Decrease.	
	£.	£.	<b>£</b> .	£.	
Customs	9,477,774	9,959,323	481,549	-	
Excise	25,846,322	24,401,243		1,445,079	
Stamps	6,258,824	6,256,797		2,027	
Post-Office	1,343,000	1,350,000	7,000	· 🚣 .	
Taxes	7,206,910	6,788,024	·	418,886	
Miscellaneous	388,264	471,718	83,454	<u> </u>	
	50,521,094	49,227,105	572,003	1,865,992	
•		Deduct Incres	ise	572,003	
		Decrease on t	he year	1,293,989	

	Quarters en	ded Oct. 10.	T	n
	1822.	1823.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£.	£.	£.	£.
Customs	2,941,888	3,348,257	406,369	
Excise	7,329,997	6,884,118		495,879
Stamps	1,674,503	1,611,945		62,558
Post-Office	360,000	363,000	3,000	
Taxes	810,136	749,614		60,522
Miscellaneous	103,285	154,616	51,831	
	13,219,809	13,061,550	460,700	618,959
	D	educt Increase	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	460,700
•	1	Decrease on the	Quarter	158,259

Income and Charge on the Consolidated Fund in the Quarters ended the 10th of October, 1822 and 1823.

•	Quarters en	ded Oct. 10.
	1822.	1823.
INCOME.	£.	£.
Customs	1,434,781	1,937,298
Excise	6,613,020	6,554,368
Stamps	1,674,503	1,611,944
Post Office	<b>360,000</b> ·	\$63,000
Taxes	810,136	749,614
Miscellaneous	103,286	154,616
Cash brought to this account, being the amount issued out of the growing produce	10,995,726	11,350,840
of the Consolidated Fund in Ireland for public services	209,841	222,862
· .	11,205,567	11,573,702

	Quarters em	ded Oct. 10.
	1822.	1823.
CHARGE.	£.	£.
Exchequer Annuities	23,750	21,701
South Sea Company	100,000	86,900
Bank on their Capital	179,125	179,125
Dividends	4,986,987	4,475,810
National Debt	3,195,764	1,210,000
Trustees for the payment of Naval and	0,200,102	1,410,000
Military Pensions	1,400,000	1,400,000
Civil List	212,500	212,500
Pensions	97,618	96,314
Other Charges	106,089	87,650
į	10,301,833	7,770,000
Surplus	903,734	3,803,702
	11,205,567	11,573,702
Exchequer Bills issued to make good the deficiency of the Consolidated Fund, at 5th July, 1823, and paid off out of the growing produce of that Fund, in the quarter ending Oct. 10, 1823	3,803,702 1,960,922	3,552,102
Total at 10th Oct. 1823, to be provided		1,842,780
for by Exchequer bills, charged on the		
growing produce of the Consolidated Fund in the quarter ending 5th Jan. 1824	:	709,322
Land in chedam ter buding 2th 1911 10%	· . — :	}

-	Jan. 5, 1822.	QUARTERS ENDED Apr. 5, 1822. July 5,	July 5, 1822.	Jan. 5, 1822. Apr. 5, 1822. July 5, 1822. Oct. 10, 1822. Oct. 10, 1822.	Year ended Oct. 10, 1822.
CURTOMS	£2,486,899	2,099,879	1,949,108	2,941,888	9,477,774
Excism.	6,390,789	5,856,798	6,268,738	7,329,997	25,846,322
STAMPS	1,501,259	1,582,346	1,500,716	1,674,503	6,258,824
Taxes under the management of Commissioners of Taxes,					•
including Arrears of Property	2,758,134	980,916	2,657,724	810,136	7,206,910
Post-office	308,000	320,000	855,000	\$60,000	1,343,000
One shilling and sixpence and four shillings in the pound					
on Pensions	21,278	14,795	20,804	16,431	73,308
Hackney-coaches and Hawkers and Pedlars	22,750	5,500	6,700	16,000	50,950
Crown Lands	I	487	1	486	978
Small Branches King's Hereditary Revenue	998'9	940	4,873	8	12,679
Surplus Fees Regulated Public Offices	42,148	8,210	3,686	10,000	64,044
Total Ordinary Revenue	13,538,123	10.869.871	12.766.749	13,160,041	50.334.784
Import and other Monies	26,164	33,689	68,689	59,768	186,310
Total Revenue	13,564,287	10,903,560	12,835,438	13,219,809	50,521,094
Applied as Consolidated Fund	11,569,843 1,264,910 729,534	10,785,950 111,670 5,940	12,002,186 826,612 4,640	10,995,726	45,853,705 4,038,002 1,135,387
			•		
Total,	. 1£13,564,287	10,903,560	12,833,438	13,219,809	50,521,084

1823	Jan. 5, 1823.	Jan. 5, 1823. April 5, 1823. July 5, 1823. Oct. 10, 1823. Oct. 10, 1923.	ENDED— July 5, 1823.	Oct. 10, 1823.	Year emfed Oct. 10, 1823.
Custoks	£2,406,238	2,109,408	2,095,420	3,348,257	9,959,323
Excist.	6,291,908	5,656,279	5,618,938	6,834,118	24,401,245
STAMPS	1,450,987	1,573,854	1,620,011	1,611,945	6,256,797
Taxes under the management of the Commissioners of		,		:	
Taxes, including Arreats of Property	2,545,231	861,764	2,631,415	749,614	6.788.B24
Post-office	324,000	330,000	333,000	863,000	1,850,000
One shilling and sixpence and four shillings in the pound					*
on Pensions	15,892	19,167	12,471	16,073	\$8.808
Hackney-coaches and Hawkers and Pedlurs	26,380	5,200	6,700	15,600	52.886
Crown Lands	1	<b>480</b>		486	968
Small branches of the King's Hereditary Revenue	3,095	4	2,274	i	1.6.37
Surplus Fees Regulated Public Offices	31,976	7,216	188	171	39,496
Total Ordinary Revenue	18 095 705	10.568.879	19.319.889	19 989-984	10 017 700
Imports and other-Monies	67,001	44,732	75,383	122,286	\$09,405 \$09,402
			-		
Total Revenue	18,162,706	10,608,104	12,394,745	18,061,650	49.227,105
Applied as Consolidated Fund	12,301,754	9,964,140	11,527,006	11,350,840	45.143.740
To pay off Exchequer Bills charged on the Annual Duties		136,011	.863,756	1,710,710	2,968,702
Applied as part of the Ways and Means of the Year	608,727	607,953	8,983	1	1,120,685
Total	£13,162,70g	10,608,104 12,394,745	12,394,745	13,061,550 49,227,105	49,227,105
			•	,	

#### THE BUDGET.

DOCUMENTS	REFERRED	TO	BY	THE	CHANCELLOR	OF	THE
		EXC	HEQ	UER.			

State of the Funded Debt of Great Britain, Ireland, and Germany, June 30, 1823.

•	June	30, 1	823.		
D	ЕВТ.	•		£.	£.
Jan. 5, 1823.—Un	redeemed D	ebt .	•		796,530,144
Capitals purchased	and transfe	rred to	the		
Commissioners, b					1
June 30, 1823, vis	Z	•			ł
De Sinking Fund	England			1,834,535	1
		•	•	172,382	Ì
Transferred for Life			•	<b>3</b> 34,883	1
Ditto Land-tax, esti		• •	´ •	24,000	}
Ditto unclaimed, 10		••	•	14,432	
Purchased with Unc			•	19,100	i
English Debt, decri	ased by ca	pital t	rans-		<b>,</b>
ferred to the debt	n Ireland	•	•	797,138	
•				0.100.470	
Dolora Talah Daka	:	£		3,196,470	
Deduct Irish Debt		by c	tpitai	797,138	[
transferred from I	ugizna .	•	•	797,130	2,399,332
					2,399,332
Unredeemed Debt, J	une 30, 189		•		794,130,812
Besides the Capital to the Bank, towa IV., c. 66—	redeemed as	d tran	sferre of E	ed as above, Exchequer-Bi	there was paid ils, per 3 Geo.
January 8, 1823	•	•			. 340,000
April 8	• •	•	•		. 340,000
To be paid July 5	• •	:	•	• . •	. 340,000
43	NNUAL C	u i da	Ė		1,020,000
Ar	INOAL C	HARC	Æ.	£.	£.
Jan. 5, 1828—Due	to Public C	weditor.	:	27,839,04	
	agement		. •	284,65	
	sions .	•	•	2,800,00	
1 01.	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	• •	. •	<b>2,000,00</b>	30,923,696
By Annual Charge,	decreased	since J	lanua	ry 5, 1823,	
				•	
Annual Charge, Jun The above An			Iusive	of the Sinki	30,840,896 ng Fund.

### CUSTOMS.

From 5th of January to 28th June, 1823 In Bills and Cash	£79,191	£4,026,661
per diem)	80,000	159,191
Hulf year ending July 5, 1822		4,185,852 4,045,987
Estimated increase to July 5, 1823 ,	٠	£ 139,865
Estimate of the Excise Revenue for the hal compared with the actual receipt of the last year.  Payments to the 5th of July, 1822.  Actual payments from the 5th of January the 1st of July, 1823.  Estimated payments from the 1st to the 5th of July.	he corresponding.	uly 5, 1823, ag period of £12,125,136
Deficiency on the half year Actual loss in the half year upon articles of which the duties have been reduced. Hides Malt, including 270,000% repayment on a count of stock in hand Salt	135,688	896,05 <i>8</i>
Actual increase  In addition to which the repayment on a duty previously accounted for, amounted which is included in the above sum and if no such repayment had been mad of revenue would have been	to 270,000l., of 450,637l.;	155,820 £425,820
Estimate of all Taxes repealed since the te the amount of their annu	ual produce.	ne War; and

rioperty-tax	•	•	~13,~VI,UUU	
War malt-England and Ireland			2,912,571	
Customs-Exports, tonnage, &c.			1,105,675	
Windows-Ireland			235,000	
				18.521.202

300			, LI		A	<i></i> , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	4	18,521,202
		AT S	U BSEQ	UENT	PER			
Husbandry h	orses	•	•	•	•		30,000	
Malt .		•	•	•	•	-	00,000	
Salt .		•	•	•	•	•	<b>95,00</b> 0	
Hides .	•	•	•	•	•		00,000	
Assessed Tax		•	•	•	•	2,30	000,000	
Ditto, Ireland			•	•	•		ю <b>,00</b> 0	
Tonnage duty		•	•	•	•		60 <b>,</b> 000	
Windows-li	reland	•	•	•	• .	. 18	80,000	
Spirits-Irela	ınd	•	•	•	•	38	80,000	
Ditto-Scotl	and	_ •	•	•	•	34	40,000	
		•						6,935,000
Dedu	ct taxes	impos	sed ann	ю 18	19 .	•	•	25,456,202 3,200,000
							·	£22,256,202
Voted 1822.			SU	PPL	Y.			1823.
7,794,854	Army						٠.	7,332,124
5,480,325	Navy						. 7	· ·
310,000	Green	wich H	lospital	١.			: }	5,442,540
1,199,498	Ordna							1,369,926
1,895,062		laneou	<b>.</b>	•	•	•	•	1,732,153
16,679,739	٠						•	15,876,743
1,200,000	Interes	st on E	xcheq	uer B	ills	•	•	1,100,000
17,879,739	·							
290,000	Sinkin	g Fund	on E	ccheq	uer Bi	ills.		
2,801,000			ers of 5					
290,456						s, 1821	•	
21,261,195								16,976,748
Actual Grant	ts, 1822	. W	AYS	ANI	) ME	ANS.		1823.
3,000,000	Annu	al Mal	it	•	•	•		8,000,000
200,000	Lotte		•	<b>.</b>	٠.	• •		200,000
110,000	Repai	đ by E:	xcheq.	BiH	Loan	Commi	scioners	126,873
2,450,000	Nava	l and I	Militar	y Pen	sions		•. •	4,800,000
•	To be	e paid	by Ea	st Inc	lia Co	mpany	on ac-	90,000
	Surni	ne Was	s and	Mac-	(auu	Ceneul	Acers	469,047
						•	•	
7 500 000			solidate		na .	•	•	8,700,000
7,500,000			d Loar	i.				
1,500,000		Outies.						
151,000	Old S			_				
598,617	Lust 1	ndia C	ompan	y.			•	
15,509,617	D., T.		_C TT. 4	c	, 1 Th-1 :			
5,831,670	By In	crease	of Uni	unde	u Debi	L.		
21,341,287				••				17,385,920

Actual Grants, 1823.	Supply	•	•	•	•	£17,385,920 16,976,7 <b>43</b>
£244,1	Ways and 1 150 will be a of Unfunded	pplied	to th			409,177
	UNFUND	E <b>D</b> D	EBT	•		
Exchequer Bills granted Ditto, Public Works, 18	189 I in Supply, 188		•	•	•	£34,800,000 144,150
	100	20				34,944,150
Exchequer Bills, per Ac Exchequer Bills to be v	182 ct 4 Geo. IV oted .		. 4.		•	£20,000,000 14,700,000
						£34,700,000

#### FOREIGN STATIONS.

Abstract of the actual Disbursements of the several Commissaries upon Foreign Stations, charged in the Army Extraordinaries for the year ending December 25, 1821, and paid by Great Britain, exclusive of the Revenues collected in the several Colonies, and other Expenses voted in the Army and Ordinary Estimates for that year.

								Æ,	8.	d.
1.	Canada .		,	•		•		397,629	14	41
2.	Nova Scotia and	New	Brui	nswick				105,586	2	4
3.	Newfoundland							13,285	10	71
. 4.	Bermuda .					•		28,193	6	7 <del>1</del>
5.	Bahama Islands			•				8,808	13	101
6.	Windward and L	eewa	rd Is	slands s	ınd (	Colonies		321,480	8	103
7.	Jamaica .	•		•		•			15	6
8.	Cape of Good H	ODe			•			177,012	17	21
	Mauritius .						٠	41,190	7	42
10.	Mediterranean			-					11	3
	Gibraltar		·			•		118,383	8	04
12.	Sierra Leone and	Gan	nbia			•		65,395	13	73
	Heligoland	•	•	•	•	•	•	6,809	0	31
	•	•						1,627,237	10	0
	Ceylon (as p	er A	rmy	Estima	ates)		•	18,450		4
								1,645,687	1	4

#### THE ROYAL FORESTS.

#### From the Crown Land Commissioners' Fourth Report.

The whole quantity of forest land now belonging to the Crown, either in fee or subject to the rights of common, is 122,622 acres: and although the different measures taken with regard to each forest have been noticed in former reports, we think it will be convenient here to bring together, in one statement, the present extent and state of all that property; showing what has been acquired for the growth of timber; and what further quantity may probably be obtained for the same purpose. The particulars are as follow, viz.—

• •	•			in each rest.	Acres enclosed for the growth of timber.
New Forest .			. 66	,942	6,000
Dean Forest .			. 23	,015	11,000
Alice Holt Forest			. 1	,892	1,89≵
Woolmer Forest .			. 5	949	1,700
Bere Forest .			. 1	,417	1,417
Whittlewood Forest			. 5	424	3,895
Salcey Forest .			. 1	,847	1,121
Whichwood Forest			. 3	,709	1,841
Waltham Forest				278	
Windsor Forest .			. 4	,402	4,402
Delamere Forest			. 3	847	3,847
Parkhurst Forest	•	•		900	900
			١		<del></del>
Acres	•	•	. 122	,622	38,015

#### FRANCE-PECUNIARY INDEMNITY.

An Account of the Sums received from France, in respect of the Pecuniary Indemnity payable under the Convention No. 5, of the 15th of November, 1815; and of the appropriation thereof:—

of November, 1010; and of the appropriation then	£.	8.	d.
The total sum received by his Majesty's Government, in pursuance of this Convention, and of the several arrangements subsequently made, was 125,228,482f. 42c., which, at the exchange of 25f. 29c., the average rate of remittance to this country, was  By interest, &c. upon the money received beyond the account paid by way of discount upon anticipated payments, commission upon negotia-	4,961,699	11	71
tions, &c	<sup>-</sup> .71,473	4	9
	5,023,172	16	41

	£.	<b>s.</b>	d.
By payment on account of proportions of the pe- cuniary indemnity due to Hanover	1 <b>66,8<b>9</b>0</b>	16	5
By payment on account of the sums due to	,		
Brunswick, for subsidiary force Paid the Chevalier Canova, for removing works	19,211	4	9
of art, &c	9,971	10	5
Remitted to Lisbon, to discharge outstanding	00.0**	_	
demands of the army	98,853	-	01
By the expenses of the office of the Commis-	1,000,000	0	0
sioners of Deposit	23,527	1	81
By amount paid for the use of the army in	•		- 4
France, beyond the sum received from the			
French Government on that account.	1,269,071	1	9
By payments in respect of fortifications in the Netherlands	1,529,765	2	8
By payment on account of supplies 1821, pur-	1,020,100	K	•
suant to the grant of Parliament	500,000	0	0
By amount paid the Treasurer of the Ordnance			
on account of expenses incurred in the depart-			
ment in England, in respect of the Ordnance corps stationed in France	15,634	10	0
By amount paid M. de Ladebat, in satisfaction of	10,004	14	3
his claims, in respect of property belonging to			
him, sequestrated at the beginning of the War			
by the British Government	99,331	4	7
By amount by M. Martin, towards the indemni-			
fication of proprietors of property at St. Do- mingo, for the sequestration of their property	-		
during the occupation of that island by the			
British forces	3,400	0	0
By amount paid the French East India Com-			
pany, as an indemnification for the property			•
belonging to them, sequestrated at the com- mencement of the war	60,000	0	Δ.
By amount granted to Lord Beresford, and the	00,000	U	v
Portuguese army under his command, on ac-	•		
count of their proportion of the prize captured			
by the Allied Armies, and delivered over to the			
British authorities, beyond the net sum re-			
ceived from France, as the value of the prize property left at Bordeaux	22,738	19	81
By amount paid Mr. Spearman, remuneration	3,1 00		- <b>y</b>
for his services in the payment of subsidies to			
foreign powers	1,000	0	0
By payments on account of his Majesty's Coronation	198 401	۸	•
nauvii	138,231	0	æ

By amount paid on account of the expenses		4,957,628	7	6
his Majesty's journey to Scotland .	•	<b>3,3</b> 58	9	7
By Balance .	•	£4,960,986 *62,185		
		£5,023,172	16	41

COMMERCE WITH SPANISH
AMERICA.
Foreign Office, Oct. 17, 1823.
Sir,—I am directed by Mr. Se-

Sir,—I am directed by Mr. Secretary Canning to acquaint you, in reference to your application for protection to the trade of his Majesty's subjects with the provinces of Spanish America, that his Majesty's Government have determined to send out, forthwith, Consular Agents to the several ports and places in those provinces, in which, as they have learned from the best inquiry, British interests are at present most extensively concerned.

I subjoin a list of these ports

and places.

I am, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

Joseph Planta.

John Lowe, Esq. &c. &c.
Mexico . . . . Consul-gen.
Vera Cruz . . . Consul
Acapulco . . . Ditto
Santa Fé de Bogota Consul-gen.

La Guayra . . . Consul

Maracaybo . . . Ditto

Carthagena . . . Ditto Panama . . . Ditto

Ditto . . . Consul-gen. Buenos Ayres . . Vice-cons.

Monte Video . . . Consul

Cnie(	v ai	par	B18(	))	•	Consul-gen.
Ditto		٠.		•		Vice-cons.
Ditto		٠,				Ditto
Peru (I	im	a)				Consul-gen.
Ditto		•				Vice-Cons.
Ditto						Ditto

#### BRAZILS-PORTUGAL.

[From Papers ordered to be printed by Parliament.]

Henry Hayne, Esq. to Lord Clanwilliam.

Rio de Janeiro, Aug. 21, 1822. My Lord —I beg, herewith annexed, to transmit to your lordship a list of the ships which bave arrived at this port with slaves on board, for the purpose of traffic, from the 1st of April to the 30th of June last, in the same form as the list of the three preceding months, which I had the honour of forwarding to your lordship. The number imported this year compared to the corresponding six months last year, is no less than un increase of six thousand five hundred and thirty-six. increase may be accounted for by the arrival of three vessels from Bahia, which, not finding a good market there, (owing, I presume, to the disturbed state of that city,)

Whitehall, Treasury Chambers, June 25, 1823. J. C. Herries.

This balance is liable to the payment of a further sum, on account of the subsidiary force of Brunswick; as also of a further sum, as indemnification to the proprieters of property in St. Domingo, the amount of which cannot at present be accurately ascertained.

came to this port, where their cargoes met with a ready sale, and fetched a higher price than those usually imported, owing to their being of a better race, doubtless from the North of the Equator, which is readily ascertained by their marks and language: however, they were entered at the Custom House at Bahia as coming from Molembo.

(Signed) HENRY HAYNE.

Slaves imported at Rio Janeiro, (April to June, 1822.)

-		še.		Totals.		
Vessel's Name.	Embarked.	Died on passage.	Arrived.	Embarked.	Died.	Arrived.
St. Ant. Destimido	747	228	519·			
Maria	448	69	379			
Sauta Rosa	313	22	291			
Senr. do Baluarte	418	215	203			
				1926	534	1392
Conceicao Passos	450	49	401			
Reino do Brazil	425	37	388			
				875	86	789
Gram Penedo	459	27	432		1	
Urania	302	34	268			
Amalia	760	153	607			•
St. Anno Flor do Loando	545	11	534		•	
Legeiro	408	18	390			
Toninha	256	_	256			
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>		2 <b>73</b> 0	243	2487
Total in the morth				2760	277	2483
	Feb	ruary .		6301	985	5316
	Ma	rch	• • • • • •	<b>5303</b> .	762	4541
Total in six months	••••	••••	•••••	19895	2887	17008

#### JAMAICA.

[The following, although not of recent date, has been given, in the present state of West India affairs, to show the view the Colonists take of their relation with Great Britain.]

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

"The humble Petition and Memorial of the Assembly of Jamaica: " Most Gracious Sovereign,— We your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Assembly of Jamaica, having taken into our consideration the present critical state of the colonies, humbly approach the throne, to assure your Majesty of our most dutiful regard to your royal person and family, and our attachment to, and reliance on, our fellow-subjects in Great Britain, founded on the most solid and durable basis, the continued enjoyment of our personal rights, and the security of our properties.

"That, weak and feeble as this colony is, from its very small number of white inhabitants, and its peculiar situation, from the incumbrance of more than 200,000 slaves, it cannot be supposed that we now intend, or ever could have intended, resistance to Great Britain.

"That this colony has never, by riots or other violent measures, opposed, or permitted an act of resistance against any law imposed on us by Great Britain, though always truly sensible of our just rights, and of the pernicious consequences both to the parent and infant state, with which some of them must be attended; always relying, with the most implicit confidence, on the justice and paternal tenderness of your Majesty, even to the most distant of your subjects; and depending, that when your Majesty and your Parliament should have maturely considered and deliberated on the claims of Great Britain and her colonies. every cause of dissatisfaction would be removed.

"That, justly alarmed with the approaching horrors of an unnatural contest between Great Britain and her colonies, in which the most dreadful calamities to this island, and the inevitable destruction of the small sugar colonies, are involved; and excited by these ap-

prehensions, as well as by our affection for our fellow-subjects, both in Great Britain and the colonies, we implore your Majesty's favourable reception of this our humble petition and memorial, as well on behalf of ourselves and our constituents, the good people of this island, as on behalf of all other your Majesty's subjects, the colonists of America, but especially those who labour at present under the heavy weight of your Majesty's displeasure, for whom we entrest to be admitted as humble suitors. that we may not, at so important a crisis, be wanting to contribute our sincere and well-meant (however small) endeavours, to heal those disorders which may otherwise terminate in the destruction of the empire.

"That, as we conceive it necessary for this purpose, to enter into the different claims of Great Britain and her colonies, we beg leave to place it in the royal mind, as the first established principle of the constitution, that the people of England have a right to partake and do partake of the legislation of their country; and that no laws can affect them but such as receive their assent, given by themselves or their representatives; and it follows, therefore, that no one part of your Majesty's English subjects either can, or ever could, legislate for any other part.

"That the settlers of the first colonies, but especially those of the elder colonies of North America, as well as the conquerors of this island, were a part of the English people, in every respect equal to them, and possessed of every right and privilege at the time of their emigration, which the people of England were pos-

sessed

semed of; and irrefragably to that great right of consenting to the laws, which should bind them in all cases whatsoever; and who emigrating at first in small numbers, when they might have been oppressed, such rights and privileges were constantly guaranteed by the Crown to the emigrants and conquerors, to be held and enjoyed by them, in the places to which they emigrated, and were confirmed by many repeated solemn engagements, made public by, proclamations, under the faith of which they did actually emigrate and conquer; that therefore the people of England had no rights, power, or privilege, to give to the emigrants, as these were at the time of their emigration possessed of all such rights, equally with themselves.

" That the Peers of England were presented of very eminent and distinguished privileges in their own rights, as a branch of legislature; a court of justice in the dernier ressort, for all appeals from the people; and, in the first instance, for all causes instituted by the representatives of the people; but that it does not appear that they ever considered themselves as acting in such capacities for the colonies; the Peers having never, to this day, heard or determined the causes of the colonists in appeal, in which it ever was, and is, their duty to serve the subjects within the realm.

"That, from what has been said, it appears that the emigrants could receive nothing from either the Peers or the people; the former being mable to communicate their privileges, and the latter on no more than an equal footing with themselves: but that with the

King it was far otherwise; the Royal prerogative, as now annexed to and belonging to the Crown, being totally independent of the people, who cannot invade, add to, or diminish it, nor restrain or invalidate those legal grants which the prerogative hath a just right to give, and hath very liberally given, for the encouragement of colonization: to some colonies it granted almost all the royal powers of Government, which they hold and enjoy at this day; but to none of thera did it grant less than to the first conquerors of this island, in whose favour it is declared, by a royal proclamation, 'that they shall have the same privileges, to all intents and purposes, as the free-born subjects of England,'

"That, to use the name or authority of the people of the parent state, to take away or render ineffectual the legal grants of the Crown to the colonists, is delusive, and destroys that confidence which the people have ever had, and ought to have, of the most solemn royal grants in their favour, and renders unstable and insecure those very rights and privileges which prompted their emigration.

"That your colonists and your petitioners, having the most implicit confidence in the royal faith, pledged to them in the most solemn manner by your predecessors. rested satisfied with their different portions of the royal grants; and having been bred, from their infancy, to venerate the name of parliament,-a word still dear to the heart of every Briton, and considered as the palladium of liberty, and the great source from whence their own is derived,-received the several acts of Parliament of England and Great Britain, for the regulation

gulation of the trade of the colonies, as the salutary precautions of a prudent father for the prosperity of a wide-extended family; and that in this light we received them, without a thought of questioning the right, the whole tenor of our conduct will demonstrate, for above 100 years; that though we received those regulations of trade from our fellow-subjects of England and Great Britain, so advantageous to us, as colonists, as Englishmen and Britons, we did not thereby confer on them a power of legislating for us, far less that of destroying us and our children by divesting us of all rights and property.

"That, with reluctance, we have been drawn from the prosecution of our internal affairs, to behold with amazement a plan almost carried into execution, for enslaving the colonies, founded, as we conceive, on a claim of Parliament to bind the colonists in all cases what-

soever.

"Your humble petitioners have for several years, with deep and silent sorrow, lamented this unrestrained exercise of legislative power; still hoping, from the interposition of their Sovereign, to avert that last and greatest of calamities, that of being reduced to an abject state of slavery, by having an arbitrary government established in the colonies; for the very attempting of which a Minister of your predecessors was impeached by a House of Commons.

. "With like sorrow do we find the Popish religion established by law, which by treaty was only to

be tolerated.

"That the most essential rights of the colonies have been invaded, and their property given and granted to your Majesty, by men not

entitled to such a power.

"That the murder of the colonists hath been encouraged by another act, disallowing and annulling their trials by juries of the vicinage; and that fleets and armies have been sent to enforce those dreadful laws.

"We, therefore, in this desperate extremity, most humbly beg leave to approach the throne, to declare to your Majesty that our fellow-subjects in Great Britain, and consequently their representatives the House of Commons, have not a right, as we trust we have shown, to legislate for the colonies; and that your petitioners and the colonists are not, nor ought to be, bound by any other laws than such as they have themselves assented to, and not disallowed by your Majesty.

"Your petitioners do therefore make this claim and demand from their Sovereign, as guarantee of their just rights, on the faith and confidence of which they have settled, and continue to reside in these distant parts of the empire,—that no laws shall be made and attempted to be forced upon them, injurious to their rights as colonists,

Englishmen, or Britons.

"That your petitioners, fully sensible of the great advantages that have arisen from the regulations of trade in general, prior to the year 1760, as well to Great Britain and her colonies as to your petitioners in particular, and being anxiously desirous of increasing the good effects of these laws, as well as to remove an obstacle which is new in our government, and could not have existed on the principles of our constitution, as it hath arises

from

from colonization, we do declare for ourselves and the good people of this island, that we freely consent to the operation of all such acts of the British Parliament as are limited to the regulation of our external commerce only, and the sole objects of which are the mutual advantage of Great Britain and her colonies.

"We, your petitioners, do therefore beseech your Majesty, that you will be pleased, as the common parent of your subjects, to become a mediator between your European and American subjects; and to consider the latter, however far removed from your royal presence, as equally entitled to your protection, and the benefits of the English constitution; the deprivation of which must dissolve that dependence on the parent state which it is our glory to acknowledge, whilst enjoying those rights under her protection; but, should this bond of union be ever destroyed, and the colonists reduced to consider themselves as tributaries to Britain, they must cease to venerate her as an affectionate parent.

"We beseech your Majesty to believe, that it is our earnest prayer to Almighty Providence, to preserve your Majesty in all happiness, prosperity, and honour; and that there never may be wanting one of your illustrious line to transmit the blessings of our excellent constitution to the latest posterity, and to reign in the hearts of a loyal, grateful, and affectionate people.

#### PRUSSIAN CONSTITUTIONS. Berlin, August 5.

On the 2d his Majesty came from Toplitz, his birth-day being en the 3d, which he kept with his family in the Pfauen Insel (Isle of Peacocks).

The greatest sensation has been excited on this day, which is so dear to all Prussians, by the publication of the Bulletin of the Laws No. 13, which contains the following general law respecting the Provincial Assemblies:---

"We, Frederick William, &c., to give our faithful subjects a new and durable pledge of paternal favour and confidence, have resolved to introduce Representative Assemblies into the Monarchy, and to that end to establish Provincial Assemblies in the spirit of the ancient German constitution, such as the peculiar situation of the country and the spirit of the times require. A committee, of which his Royal Highness the Crown Prince was President, has been appointed by his Majesty to prepare this measure, and consult upon it with experienced men from each province."

On the report of this committee. his Majesty gave the following decree, dated June 5:-

- 1. Provincial Assemblies shall be called into action.
- 2. Landed property is the basis of the representation.
- 3. The provincial estates are the leading organ of the various subordinate estates in each province. According to this decision, his-Majesty will-1st, Cause to be sent to them for their discussion, the projects of laws which concern the province only; 2. So long as there are no general assemblies of the States, send to them for discussion such general projects of laws also as relate to changes in the rights of persons and property, and to the taxes; 3. Reserve for the Provincial Assemblies petitions and re-

moustrances

monstrances' which concern the special welfare and interest of the whole province or a part of it, examine them, and decide upon them; 4. Leave it to them to decide on the communal affairs of the province, with the reserve of his Ma-

jesty's approbation.

To the present law, which however is not applicable in Neufchâtel and Vallengin, this will add a special law for each province. Should his Majesty think that changes in these special laws might be useful or beneficial, he will not make them without the concurrence of the Provincial Assemblies. When a convocation of the General Estates of the kingdom will be necessary, and how it shall then proceed for the Provincial Estates, remains for his Mejesty in his paternal care to determine.

The special laws, all dated 1st of July, relate severally to the Provincial Estates—1. For the March of Brandenburg and the Marquisate of Lower Lusatia. 2. Those of the kingdom of Prussia, comprising (a) East Prussia, (b) Lithuania, (c) West Prussia. 3. To Pomerania and Rugon.

The Estates of the 1st province to meet at Berlin; of the 2d at Koningsberg and Dantzic alternately; and of the 3d at Strettin.

The special laws contain detailed regalations respecting the eligibility of the deputies, the right of

Dutch Loan.....

Debt from terminable annuities

Debt bearing 6 per cent. perpetual

Debt bearing 5 per cent. perpetual interest

(a) 18 (c) un nia ed 43

election, the exercise of the right of the Estates, the convocation and the duration of the Provincial Assemblies, the Communal Assemblies, the Assemblies of Circles, &c.—Hamburgh paper, Aug. 8.

#### RUSSIAN FINANCES.

The Superintending Conneil of the Credit Establishment having met on the 27th of June, Lieutenant-General Cancren, Minister of Finance, opened the business with a speech on the state of the several objects to which the attention of the Council was to be called. His discourse was consequently divided into the following heads:—

Sinking Fund Commission.—Under this head the Minister stated the amount of the debt on the 1st of June, 1822; the inscriptions redeemed in the course of that year, and certain claims on the Government which had been admitted. Of the loan concluded with Meesrs. Rothschild in London, in the year 1822, he could not give an account until it was completely terminate Its amount was stated to be 43,000,000 of silver roubles, but of which only 23,000,160 silver roubles had yet been inscribed in the great book of the public debt. The result of his details appeared to be that the public debt on the 1st of January, 1823, stood as follows:---

48,100,000 florins.
3,364,000 roubles in silver.
34,505,753 in assignats.
20,620 roubles in gold.
9,015,412 in silver.
240,945,711 in assignats.

61,362,360 roubles in silver.

The sum destined, according to the regulation of the sinking fund commission, to the diminution of the mass of assignats in circulation, consists for the year 1822 of 32,402,715 roubles.

He observed, that the examination of the account presented by the commission would convince the council, that, notwithstanding an augmentation of the public debt, the payment of the capital and the interest was perfectly secured.

Assignat Bank.—According to a statement under this head, the law prohibiting new emissions of assignate has been strictly observed, and the quantity now in circulation is 595,721,010 roubles.

Loan Bank.—The sums advanced by this bank in the year 1822, chiefly for assistance to manufacturing establishments, amount to 10,495,731 roubles 50 copecs in assignats. According to the account presented by the Bank, its profits amount to 8,557 roubles 33½ copecs in gold; 81,681 roubles 18½ copecs in silver; 1,444,284 roubles 82 copecs in assignats.

Commercial Bank.—The capital of this establishment, fixed at 30 millions, was completed in 1822. Its transactions during the same year extended to 185,230,858 roubles 72 copecs. The loans on merchandise exceeded those of 1821 by 4,366,552 roubles 31 copecs. There remain due on procested bills of exchange, the payment of which the Bank is prosecuting before the ordinary tribunals, 2,351,313 roubles 50 copecs.

The profits of the Bank and its factories, deducting their expense, amount to 1,810,615 roubles 55 copecs.

The Bank had in all its transactions strictly followed the prescrib-

ed rules: and the examination of the accounts showed that the total of the returns of that establishment and its factories, in the year 1822, is 890,079,035 roubles 10 copers in assignats, and 6,900,616 roubles 31 copees in metallics. The Minister concluded by saying, "Having thus presented to you a view of the operations of our credit establishments, I have to beg that you will bring to the examination of these accounts the same attention and impartiality which in former years so powerfully contributed to convince the public of the order observed in those establishments, and the scrupulous punctuality with which they adhere to the course originally traced out for them. For my part, I shall not fail to co-operate in every thing capable of supporting and consolidating them, by combining their future operations with the actual situation of affairs, with the experience of the past, with the beneficent intentions of our august Sovereign, and consequently with the public interest, as well as with the interests of individuals."

#### Persia.

The Persian Minister, Mirza Mahomed Saulit, having effected the ebject of his mission to this country, and made the necessary arrangements for his departure for Russia, in the Jasper sloop of war, has issued, as his last public act, an official notification from the Prince Royal of Persia, to the people of England, and the several other European nations, of which the following is a

"As many families from Enropean countries have lately resorted, some to America and New Holland,

Holland, and others to Georgia and Daghistan, as settlers; his Royal Highness Abbas Mirza, the Prince Royal of Persia, through the medium of his Minister at the Court of Great Britain, personally assures all those who may be inclined to take up their residence in his kingdom of Adzirbijan, of which the capital is Tabriz, that, on their arrival in the district of Sauvidgeboulogh, he will immediately assign to them portions of land, with residences attached, and every requisite for their comfort and subsistence. The soil will yield abundant crops of wheat, barley, rice, cotton, and every species of fruit or grain they may choose to cultivate; and the natural produce of the country exceeds that of any other quarter of the globe. Besides receiving grants of lands, such settlers shall, as long as they reside in Persia, be exempt from all taxes or contributions of any kind: their property and persons be held sacred, under the immediate protection of the Prince himself; who further engages, that they shall be treated with the greatest kindness and attention, and, as is the custom of Persia, be at full liberty to enjoy their own religious opinions and feelings, and to follow, without control or interruption, their own mede of worship. As all travellers who have visited Persia agree that it is the best climate under the sun, it is only necessary to state, by way of exemplification, that it is the usual place of resort for persons whose health has been impaired by a residence in India, and it rarely happens that such invalids do not speedily become convalescent from the change.

" His Royal Highness, in issuing his commands to give publicity to these sentiments, is prompted by an ardent desire naturally to promote the welfare of settlers, and the improvement of his country: which he is convinced, from pust experience, would be greatly advanced in knowledge, and materially benefited in every point of view, by a more extended and familiar intercourse with Europeans, and especially with those whom be has ever felt pleasure in designa-

ting 'his English friends.'

"The undersigned, in thus promulgating the views and wishes of his Prince, in obedience to the positive commands with which he has been honoured, scarcely conceives it necessary to offer any observations upon the assurances given in this paper, as the character of his Royal Highness is so well understood, and has been so duly appreciated by the subjects of Great Britain who have for years been domiciled in Persia, and to which many authors both of that and other countries have added their testimony; but for the satisfaction of such individuals as may not have the facility of obtaining information upon this point, the Prince's devoted servant and humble representative begs leave to state that his Royal Master has ever been characterized as amiable, just, benevolent, and honourable in the highest degree; though dignified in his deportment, extremely affable; proverbially of a liberal, enlightened, and magnanimous mind; possessing great intellectual powers, which are nobly applied; a strenuous advocate for pure morality, and religion without bigotry; the friend of the oppressed and needy; uniformly administering strict and impartial justice, but at the same time exercising his high preroga-

tive

tive with the most merciful consideration; ardent in his endeavours to cultivate the mind, and improve the condition of all classes of his subjects, as far as the circumstances in which he is placed will admit; indeed, it may be said with truth, that he is pre-eminently distinguished for every virtue that is estimable in civilized society, or that can adorn and dignify the monarch or the man.

"MAHOMED SAULIT.
"No. 25, Great Coram-street,
London, July 8."

# South American Independence.

Preliminary Convention agreed upon between the Government of Buenos-Ayres and the Commissioners of his Catholic Majesty. The Government of Buenos-

having recognized, Avres caused to be recognized, in virtue of credentials presented and legalized in competent form, Senores Don Antonio Luis Pereyra and Don Luis de la Robla, as Commissioners from the Government of his Catholic Majesty; and it being proposed to the said Senores, by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the said state of Buenos-Ayres, to agree to a Convention preliminary to the definitive Treaty of Peace and Amity which is to be concluded between the Government of his Catholic Majesty the Government of the United Provinces, upon the bases established in the law of the 19th of June of the present year; they, after considering and reciprocally discussing whatever they held to be calculated to conduce to the better adjustment of the relations of the said States, have, in the ex-1823.

ercise of the character with which they are invested, and of the powers conferred on them, agreed to the said Preliminary Convention in the terms expressed in the following articles:—

Article 1. After sixty days, reckoning from the ratification of the present Convention by the Governments to which it applies, all hostilities, by sea and by land, shall cease between the said Governments and the Spanish nation.

- 2. In consequence, the General of the forces of his Catholic Majesty at present in Peru, will continue in the positions which he shall occupy at the time of the convention being notified to him, saving the particular stipulations which, for reciprocal convenience, the adjacent Governments may propose or accept, for the purpose of improving their respective lines of occupation during the suspension of hostilities.
- 3. The relations of commerce, with the sole exception of articles contraband of war, shall, during the period of the said suspension, be fully re-established between the provinces of the Spanish Monarchy, those occupied by the armies of his Catholic Majesty in Peru, and the states which ratify this convention.
- 4. In consequence, the flags of the respective States shall be reciprocally respected and admitted into each other's ports.
- 5. The relations of maritime commerce between the Spanish nation and the States which may ratify this Convention, shall be regulated by a special Convention, the framing of which shall be entered upon in pursuance of the present convention.
  - 6. Neither the Authorities ad-2 K ministering

ministering the provinces of Peru in the name of his Catholic Majesty, nor the adjacent States, shall impose on the trade of each other higher duties than those which may exist at the period of the conclusion of the present convention.

7. The suspension of hostilities shall subsist for the space of eigh-

teen months.

- 8. Within the said period the Government of the State of Buenos-Ayres will negotiate, through the medium of a plenipotentiary of the United Provinces of the Rio de la Plata, and conformably to the law of the 19th of June, the conclusion of a definitive treaty of peace and amity between his Catholic Majesty and the States of the American Continent to which the said law refers.
- 9. In case of the renewal of hostilities, such renewal shall not take place, nor shall the relations of commerce be interrupted, until four months after the intimation of hostilities.
- 10. The law existing in the Spanish Monarchy, as well as in the State of Buenos-Ayres, respecting the inviolability of property, even though it may be an enemy's property, shall have full force, in the case of the operation of the preceding article, within the territories of the Governments which may ratify this convention, and reciprocally.

11. As soon as the Government of Buenos-Ayres shall be authorised by the House of Representatives to ratify this convention, it will negotiate the accession thereto of the Governments of Chile, Peru, and the other united provinces of the Rio de la Plata; and the Commissioners of his Catholic Majesty will, at the same time, take every

means for giving to this accession, on the part of the authorities of his Catholic Majesty, the most prompt and complete effect.

12. For the due effect and validity of this convention, the necessary copies shall be signed and sealed on the part of the Commissioners of his Catholic Majesty with their seal, and on the part of the Government of Buenos-Ayres with the seal of the Department for Foreign Affairs.

Buenos-Ayres, July 4.

(Signed) ANT. LUIS PERBYRA,
LUIS DE LA ROBLA,
Commissioners of his Catholic
Majesty.

BERNARDIN RIVADAVIA, Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Law Project-Single Article.

The Government is authorized to ratify the Preliminary Convention concluded on the 4th of the present month between the Government of the State of Buenos-Ayres and the Commissioners of his Catholic Majesty resident there; and also to negotiate the accession thereto of the States and Governments mentioned in article 11. of the said Convention.

RIVADAVIA.

Law Project—Single Article.

The war which the King Louis
VIII. is preparing to make on

XVIII. is preparing to make on the Spanish nation being directly and principally opposed to the principle recognized in article 1. of the law of the 10th of May, 1822, in case that aggression should be realized, the Government is authorized to negotiate,—after the conclusion of the definitive treaty of peace and amity with his Catholic Majesty on the bases of the law of the 19th of June, to which treaty the Convention of the 4th

of July current is preliminary,—that there shall be voted, by the American States recognized independent, in virtue of the said definitive treaty, for maintaining the independence of Spain under the representative system, the same sum of twenty millions as that which in the month of March last was supplied for destroying it by the Chambers of Paris.

Buenos-Ayres, July 4.

ŘIVADAVIA.

DECREE OF THE KING OF SPAIN upon his Liberation by the French Troops.

The scandalous excesses which preceded, accompanied, and followed the establishment of the Democratical Constitution of Cadiz, in the month of March 1820, have been made public, and known to all my subjects.

The most criminal treason, the most disgraceful baseness, the most horrible offences against my Royal person—these, coupled with violence, were the means employed to change essentially the paternal Government of my kingdom into a democratical code, the fertile source of disasters and misfortunes.

My subjects, accustomed to live under wise and moderate laws, and such as were conformable to their manners and customs, and which during so many ages constituted the welfare of their ancestors, soon gave public and universal proofs of their disapprobation and contempt of the new Constitutional System. All classes of the State experienced the mischiefs caused by the new institutions.

Tyrannically governed, by virtue and in the name of the Constitution, secretly watched in all their

private concerns, it was not possible to restore order or justice; and they could not obey laws established by perfidy and treason, sustained by violence, and the source of the most dreadful disorders, of the most desolating anarchy, and of universal calamity.

The general voice was heard from all sides against the tyrannical Constitution; it called for the cessation of a code null in its origin, illegal in its formation, and unjust in its principle; it called for the maintenance of the sacred religion of their ancestors, for the re-establishment of our fundamental laws, and for the preservation of my legitimate rights—rights which I have received from my ancestors, and which my subjects have solemnly sworn to defend.

This general cry of the nation was not raised in vain.

In all the provinces armed corps were formed, which leagued them-selves against the soldiers of the Constitution: sometimes they were conquerors—sometimes they were conquered; but they always remained firm to the cause of religion and of the monarchy.

Their enthusiasm in the defence of objects so sacred never deserted them under the reverses of war; and preferring death to the sacrifice of those great benefits, my subjects convinced Europe, by their fidelity and their constancy, that although Spain nourished in her bosom some unnatural children, the sons of rebellion, the nation in general was religious, monarchical, and passionately devoted to its legitimate Sovereign.

The whole of Europe—well aware of my captivity, and of that of all the Royal Family, of the deplorable situation of my loyal and

faithful

faithful subjects, and of the pernicious doctrines which Spanish agents were disseminating on all sides—resolved to put an end to a state of things which constituted a common reproach, and which menaced with destruction all thrones and all ancient institutions, in order to substitute impiety and profi-. gacy.

France, intrusted with so sacred an enterprise, has triumphed in a few months over the efforts of all the rebels of the world, collected for the misery of Spain upon her classic soil of fidelity and loyalty.

My august and well-beloved cousin, the Duke d'Angouleme, at the head of a valiant army, a conqueror throughout all my territories, has rescued me from the slavery in which I pined, and restored me to my constant and faithful subjects.

Replaced upon the throne of St. Ferdinand, by the just and wise hand of Providence, as well as by the generous efforts of my noble allies, and the valiant enterprise of my cousin the Duke d'Angouleme and his brave army, desirous of applying a remedy to the most pressing necessities of my people, and of manifesting to all my real will in this the first moment of my recovered liberty, I have authorized the following decree :-

Art. 1. All the acts of the Government called Constitutional (of whatever kind and description they may be), a system which oppressed my people from the 7th March, 1820, until 1st of October, 1823, are declared null and void, declaring, as I now declare, that during the whole of that period I have been deprived of my liberty, obliged to sanction laws and authorize orders, decrees, and regulations, which the

said Government framed and executed, against my will.

2. I approve of every thing which has been decreed and ordered by the Provisional Junta of Government, and by the Regency, the one created at Oyarzun, April 9, the other May 26, in the present year, waiting, meanwhile, until, sufficiently informed as to the wants of my people, I may be able to bestow those laws, and adopt those measures, which shall he best calculated to secure their real prosperity and welfare, the constant object of all my wishes.

You may communicate this decree to all the Ministers.

(Signed by the Royal hand.) DON VICTOR SAEZ. Port St. Mary, Oct. 1.

(Supplement to El Restaurador of the 16th October, distributed gratis in Madrid.)

Representation of the City of Corunna against the Chambers, and in favour of the Holy Tribunal of the Inquisition.

"The Ayuntamiento of the most noble and most loyal city of Corunna, the capital of the kingdom of Galicia, with a voice in Cortes, now addresses your Serene Highnesses, to make known their own sentiments and the sentiments of the inhabitants of the town which they represent. More than three years of oppression, and all the cruel vexations experienced during the siege the town has sustained, were incapable of stifling, or even lessening their love for their religion and their King. During the latter days of the siege, the peaceable inhabitants were exposed to every kind of insult from Exorbitant exactions the rebels. -excessive labour on the fortifications

cations-and, finally, a multitude of assassinations, are the benefits conferred by the malignants; but these acts only rendered them greater objects of abhorrence, without at all changing the sentiments of the Corunnians. It was surely by a miracle that this city at length recovered its liberty on a 21st day, having lost it on another 21st. Without doubt it was the pleasure of God Almighty, that those chains which were imposed by the anarchic faction on the 21st of February should be broken on the 21st of August. But we now breathe freely; and to secure peace and tranquillity, it is only requisite that the measures necessary for exterminating the numerous sects, and which prudence and the general welfare dictate, should be immediately adopted.

"Vain would be all that has been done, if, because the ringleaders of the mischief are put down by the armies of the Most Christian Louis XVIII., no fear were to be entertained for their farther progress; but as they never cease to conspire, it is necessary to take proper precautions. Proud and stiff-necked, they even now return scorn for the benignity with which they have been treated: and their audacity gives reason to apprehend that they are meditating the means of again involving us in civil war. Their hopes are founded on the kind of Government which they openly pretend is to be established, and which being in its nature very much like that just destroyed, they will find in it liberty, the inevitable cause of our misfor-Therefore this Ayuntamiento hasten to unite their voice to that of the magistracies of so many other towns of Spain, in order to manifest their fidelity to the august captive Sovereign, and to oppose every innovation, since by innovations we have suffered so much.

" The rebels being compelled to be silent respecting their Jacobin Code, still endeavoured to hold up .that kind of government for which one of the Secret Societies has greatly laboured during this fatal period—that is to say, a Government of Chambers. Thus they mean to enslave us anew; for, that Government being similar to the one destroyed, they will in the end make it the same. They would cover themselves with the will of the nation; but that has been well demonstrated. What did not the inhabitants of the towns of Spain do, when the liberating army entered? They were all eager to present themselves before it, and to receive it with the joy of captives relieved from dungeons; and their expressions were no other than these—' Live Religion! Live the King! and Live the Laws of our Fathers!' These enchanting words succeeded to the highly seditious, which the perfidious men employed during the period of their domination; and these words clearly prove that the Spanish people have no other wish than the preservation of their holy religion, the sovereignty of their Lord Don Ferdinand VII., and the wise institutions of their ancestors. who publish the contrary are not ignorant of this, since, to convince them of it, it is sufficient to refer to the almost innumerable representations on the same subject from the towns of Spain to your Serene Highnesses.

"Not only is the wish, but the character and the habits of the Spanish

Spanish nation are also opposed to such a Government. The seditious still have arms in their hands in various parts, which they will have to surrender on your orders; but their secret labours will last longer than their power, since they have long been accustomed to obey those persons whom they consider authorised to do every thing by the disorganizing principle of the sovereignty of the people. There never will be an end to parties; hatreds will eternally exist, and Spanish blood will again be shed by Spaniards, if there again be permitted the liberty of public discussion in an assembly whence such incendiary maxims flow, and if, instead of completely casting down the pride of those who seek for our ruin, a new field be opened for their intrigues.

"The habits and the inclinations of the Spanish people are in complete opposition to any Government of this kind. Content to obey the paternal regulations of their kings and lords, they never wish to make laws, and we assert that it would be to pervert them from their nature to compel them to the contrary practice. people would become the sport of the rebels, who, governing their popular elections as they have already done, would without doubt labour directly to destroy the altar and the throne. The Spaniards who propose chambers are evidently enemies of both the altar and throne; for in general they are the very same men who shed the blood of the Ministers of Heaven, and plunder its churches. What! is it possible, that those anarchists, those infamous demagogues, those perfidious men who have so often attempted the life of

their Sovereign, can remain unpunished, and be allowed to mock upright and loyal Spaniards? God forbid! Corruption has penetrated every class to such a degree, that it is certain there would be parties in both chambers; and we, perhaps, should not be long in seeing some malignant deputy who would dare to say, 'that the intention of those who constructed the Jacobin code was nothing else than to teach the Spanish people to behold with indifference a mosque erected by the side of a church.' Here the freedom of customs and libertinism would be completely sanctioned, but that is what would be above all things most shocking to the Spanish character. The zeal of Spaniards for the Catholic religion has been so fully demonstrated, that it is impossible to doubt it for a moment: their blood has flowed to preserve it, and they will shed the last drop of it rather than allow themselves to be deprived of so invaluable a blessing—a danger to which they would be exposed by a Government with chambers, in consequence of seductive speeches. Let us repress, then, and, if necessary, exterminate men who are so pertinacious; and, to avoid the contagion, let us re-establish the institutions which experience has proved to be the best calculated for the preservation of religion.

"The Ayuntamiento have thus come to the religious part of their representation. Nothing is so fit to render men contented as the regulation of their conscience; and accordingly the observance of the law of Jesus Christ is the best means of teaching obedience to all those laws which emanate from the supreme civil power, respect to every authority, and the fulfil-

ment

ment of all social duties. Preserve, then, in all its purity, the Holy Catholic religion, by eradicating errors, and teaching its true The first of these principles. great objects will be obtained by re-establishing the holy tribunal of the Inquisition, and that, and nothing but that, is capable of producing such salutary effects. The experience of more than three ages has fully demonstrated that Spain, by maintaining that impregnable bulwark in her bosom, maintained her adored religion unstained by the frightful tints of heresy, and at the same time kept herself free from the wars that desolated other countries. Inquisition, by placing a strong wall between heresy and Spain, prevented the country from suffering injury, because in it the depository of its faith was preserved pure. Besides, that holy tribunal is what the impious most fear: against it their envenomed pens have been employed during the three years of libertinism; but its very shadow dismays them, and consequently it is impossible not to perceive that it is of all things the best calculated for exterminating errors. All the declamations of the malignants against so holy an institution deserve no attention, since the sacrifices which they pretend to have been made of innocent persons, exist only in their imaginations, and, were even all they assert granted, on a comparison with other tribunals, our Holy Inquisition would be found to have the advantage. But this is not the place for a dissertation on that point. It is sufficient for the Ayuntamiento to point to the reasons which induce them to solicit the re-establishment of that bulwark of religion.

"The errors which have been introduced once exterminated, it then will be necessary to consider how future generations may be imbued with religious and truly patriotic maxims, since thus will be raised up men decidedly lovers of their religion and their King. Education must therefore be intrusted to the most zealous and spotless teachers, since, on the first elements of instruction, depends the future happiness of individuals and nations. The innovating philosophers were well convinced of this truth: and under that conviction, one of the most distinguished among them declared that it was indispensable for them to get an ascendancy over the minds of youth. On that account they exerted themselves to overthrow that establishment which throughout nearly all Catholic Europe was intrusted with the important duty of instruction—namely, the Society of Jesus. It is well known what reproaches and sarcasms were vomited against that order on its extinction, and on the expulsion of its members from different coun-But it is precisely since that respectable body was extinguished, that there has been a rapid diffusion of the ideas hostile to the altar and the throne, which at length caused the convulsions which we have witnessed. most effectual remedy must then be that which opposes the greatest obstacle to innovators in propagating their notions. Accordingly, to restore the Jesuits, and confide to them the instruction of youth. would be to give a final blow to that ill-omened sect, which has inflicted so much evil upon us.

"Deign, then, to attend to the representation of the inhabitants of this city, represented by its Ayuntamiento.

Avuntamiento. Do not permit any kind of innovation in our Government, nor suffer our beloved Sovereign to be deprived of any of the prerogatives sworn to him by the kingdom, on his ascending the throne. Re-establish the HOLY TRIBUNAL OF THE FAITH, that the impious may be struck dumb and put to flight, and return no more to propagate their pernicious principles. Finally, consign the education of youth to the Society of Jesus, to perform that duty in the same manner as before its extinction, in order that our tranquillity may thus be lasting.

"Please to receive the tribute of the most cordial demonstrations of the respect of this Ayuntamiento, who never cease to pray that the Almighty will speedily deliver our beloved Sovereign from his captivity, and preserve for many years the lives of your Highnesses, of which the nation has so much need.

"Corunna, in the Ayuntamiento, September 10, 1823.

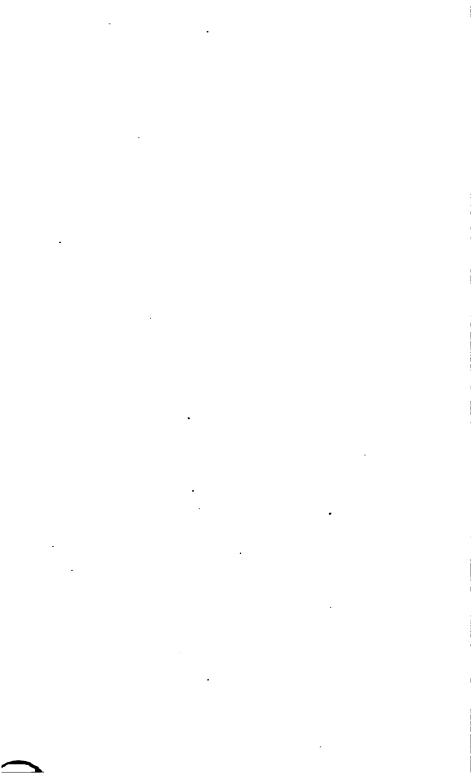
(Signed by)

ANDRES DE CASTRO,
Perpetual Alcalde,
And the other Members of the
Ayuntamiento."

## PRINCIPAL

# OCCURRENCES

In the Year 1823.



### PRINCIPAL OCCURRENCES

#### In the Year 1823.

#### JANUARY.

GREAT BRITAIN.

1.—A ROOM was opened in Capel court, adjoining the Stock Exchange, for transactions in the Foreign securities, which have been hitherto conducted openly

on the Royal Exchange.

The premises at Chard, in which the large woollen cloth factory has for many years been carried on, but which have been lately abandoned in consequence of the general decay of that important branch of trade in the West of England, have been taken by some manufacturers of patent lace.-Upwards of thirteen hundred hands are to be employed. A steam-engine and gas apparatus are erecting on the premises, the latter being for the purpose of furnishing gas, through the pure dame of which the lace is rapidly passed for divesting it of its downy filaments. The net is subsequently sent to France, where it receives a rich and elegant improvement, the addition of curiously wrought foliage and flowers, and is then returned to this country, in which, notwithstanding this claborate course, it amply realizes the hopes contemplated by the ingenious patentees.

The Managing Committee of the Houseless Poor Society, has thought proper to apply the surplus sums collected last winter in fitting up an extensive building, which was formerly a distillery, and is situated in Honduras-street, Old-street, St. Luke's, for the nightly admission of outcasts. On the ground-floor there is a ward about 200 feet long, and 40 wide; on each side, 7 feet from the wall, is a partition of wood a foot high, inside of which is strewed an immense quantity of straw, on which the applicants repose. At each end of the apartment is a fire of prodigious size, inclosed with a circular grating. In the centre are several gas burners, and at the end is the Committee-room, where the paupers are examined before they are allowed to take refuge. This ward is for the reception of males only, and will contain between 390 and 400. There is another ward of ample dimensions above stairs, fitted up in a similar manner for females. The applicants are admitted at six o'clock every evening, when they are presented with a huge piece of bread only, and are turned out at 8 o'clock next morning with the same allowance.

Colonel Fortune.—A gentlemen, so calling himself, was a sojourner (A 2) at at the Gloucester Arms Hotel for better than a twelvemonth:-he obtained his rank and distinction. it is said, by what is called a Colonel of Guides in the American war. He was pensioned by Lord Cornwallis; his income was rather under 100l. per annum. He left the Gloucester Hotel for Hurst, a country village ten or twelve miles . hence, nearly six months ago, in the hope of improving his health. He was naturally of a cheerful disposition, and which did not desert him in illness, though attended with a gradual but general decay of the whole system. ing his end inevitably approaching, he ordered a coffin, for which he was measured, and had it fashioned according to his own fancy; it consisted of polished planks of elm, without the ornamental nails, but with the initial letters of his christian and surname on the lid. The inscription followed; no term of his age was specified, which was about 75 or 76. This depository for his remains completed, he carefully aired a pair of white silk hose, white overalls or trowsers, a light morning gown, and a white cotton night-cap. he continued to pay attention to, that they might be fit for use, he said, when needed. His particular request was, that his arms in his coffin should not be extended on each side of him, but placed across the breast. His dissolution occurred at Hurst, about three weeks since. He died without a struggle or apparent pain. His wishes, as above expressed, were scrupulously observed.

Spray of the sea at Manchester.—
It may be in the recollection of some of our readers, that after the great atorm which took place on

the morning of the 1st of December, last year, it was stated in one of the Manchester Papers, that crystals of salt had been found in the windows of a gentleman's house in Salford, indicating that the spray from the sea must have been driven to that distance inland by the violence of the wind. Many persons regarded this statement with incredulity, but the fact has received complete confirmation from various sources during the last few days. Amongst others, Mr. T. Blackwell, of Crumpsall, observing the appearance, and, we believe, the taste of the incrustations on his windows, rubbed a sponge over the glass, and took it to Mr. J. Dalton, a very eminent chymist in Manchester, for the purpose of requesting him to analize its contents. The presence of salt was immediately ascertained; and the same experiment made by Mr. Dalton on his own windows in Manchester, produced the same result.

Death of a remarkable Miser.— A short time ago an old man, named Robert Tristran, who resided in a dirty court in Cow-cross, being to every appearance in the greatest distress, not having common necessaries of life, was admitted as a pauper into the Poorhouse of St. James's, Clerkenwell, where he remained until Friday last, when he expired. Some persons in the Poor-house after his death opened a box, in which were deposited the few rags of clothes belonging to the deceased, and to their surprise, in the pockets found thirteen sovereigns, and afterwards three watches: this induced them to search more minutely, and they at last found a written paper, purporting to be the old man's will,

whereby

whereby he gives 1,650l. in the funds, and any other property that he may be possessed of at the time of his death, to Mary Ann Thompson, whom he calls his natural daughter, and describes her to be about fourteen years of age. Prisoners charged at the Mansion-

	House.	,	
In the Year	s 1820	1821	1822
Felony	560	413	362
Assault	189	184	146
Disorderly	458	454	558
Vagrants	809	<b>596</b>	219
Total	2,011	1,647	1,286
At the Guil	dhall J	ustice-l	com.
Felony	621	533	<b>526</b>
Assault	462	517	629
Disorderly	1,125	1,422	1,481
Vagrants	178	101	184
	2,386	2,578	2,720
Mansion-house	2,011	1,647	1,286

Grand Total 4,397 4,220 4,006
From these statements, then, it will be observed, that there has been, upon the average of the last two years, a decrease annually in the number of persons charged with offences in the City of London.

Supposed Witch .--- The 30th ult. the Magistrates of Milverton, Somersetshire, committed to prison a woman named Bryant, and her three daughters, for cutting and maiming an inoffensive creature who earns her livelihood by collecting rags. It appears that one of her daughters had for some time laboured under violent attacks of fits, and she and her mother unaccountably conceived that the poor old woman, the rag-gatherer, was the sole cause. In consequence they applied to Baker, the Devonshire conjurer, who after drawing from them their suspi-

cions, told them that she was certainly the cause of her daughter's illness, and that the fits would be removed by drawing the blood of the witch. On their return, they agreed that the next time the old woman came near their dwelling, she should be assailed for the purpose of carrying the receipt into effect; this soon reached the old woman's ears, who took an acquaintance with her, and proceeded to Bryant's house to ask particulars. No sooner had she approached the door, than they fell on her with the utmost violence, cutting her arms in a shocking manner, with pins, nails, and scissors; and had not the old woman and her companion alarmed the neighbours, the consequence must have been still more dreadful.

#### DUBLIN.

2.—Conspiracy against Lord Lieutenunt.---At an early hour every part of the Court was excessively crowded. About half past two o'clock it was announced to the Court, that the Grand Jury of the City of Dublin, after two days' close inquiry, had in effect ignored all the hills. There were two-one for a conspiracy to riot, and the other for a simple riot. The first was ignored. The bills were found against two for a riot. But two cannot constitute a riot: so the effect was a dismissal of the bills.

On the bills coming down from the Grand Jury, the Attorney General rose, and addressed the Court as follows:

My Lords,—Upon a case the most interesting that ever occurred in this country, two bills of indictment have been sent up to the Grand Jury of the City of Dublin, against

against five persons: one set of bills charging a conspiracy to cause a riot at the Theatre, in which the person of the Lord Lieutenant was outraged and insulted; the other bills charging a riot generally. Upon the first indictment, the Grand Jury of the City of Dublin have ignored the bills against all the parties. Upon the second indictment, they have found a riot committed, implicating two of the persons in the indictment, Graham, and one of the Handwiches. It is needless to observe to the Court, that, according to the technicalities of our law, a riot cannot be committed by only two persons. Had even the bills been found for a riot only against all the parties, I should have then felt it to be my duty to adopt the line of conduct I am about to intimate in the presence of the Court. I will not arrogate to myself the office of arraigning the conduct of the Grand Jury of the City of Dublin; they have discharged their functions in the presence of their God, under the sanction of a solemn oath, taken in the face of their country: to that God they are accountable. But I also have a duty to perform. will, without anticipating the guilt of any individual, state solemnly in the presence of this crowded audience, that, in all my readings. in all my experience, in all the annals of this unfortunate country, I never did find a case so fully demonstrated of the foulest conspiracy to riot, of so much atrocity as scarcely to be heightened by the aggravation that its avowed object was to insult and outrage the representative of the King's Majesty in the public Theatre. will exercise the prerogative that the law and the constitution have given to my office; I will discharge that duty honestly, and, with the blessing of God, fearlessly-unintimidated by that gang which have formed themselves into a faction to beard the King's Government, to overturn the laws of the country, and even to insult and outrage the very person of the King's representative in Ireland: and pursuing the course of outrage and violence, from the hostility they had taken up against the venerated nobleman, for his zeal and firmness in carrying into effect the King's intentions towards Ireland, of allaying the dissensions and healing the wounds that have afflicted this unhappy country. The course of conduct that my duty directs me to pursue, will be, in the execution of the prerogative annexed to my office, to file es officio informations, and speedily to bring before the country all the perties charged in these indictments.

At the close of the Attorney-General's statement, there was a very general demonstration of applause, which the Right Honourable Gentleman instantly suppressed by his gestures.

The Attorney General immediately afterwards left the Court.

6.—A meeting of the freeholders and inhabitants of the county was held in St. Andrew's Hall, Norwich, for the purpose of taking into consideration the present state of agricultural distress, and the best means of relieving it. The meeting was one of uncommon tumult, Mr. Cobbett attended, and succeeded in carrying a radical petition.

7.—Tithes in the City.—Dr. Owen, Rector of St. Olave's, Hart-street, attended at the Man-

sion-house pursuant to adjournment, to prove his claim of 2s. 9d. in the pound upon the rental of Mr. George Abbott, who has refused to pay a lesser demand made by the Rector, upon the 37th The justice-room Henry VIII. was crowded with gentlemen, all of whom seemed to be deeply interested in the question. Lord Mayor was attended by " his assistants," the Recorder and the Common Sergeant. The complainant supported his claim in propria persona. The defendant neither appeared in his own person nor in that of any other.

The Lord Mayor having asked whether the Doctor had prepared himself with the necessary proofs to establish his claim to the tithe, Dr. Owen handed to Mr. Hobler, the chief clerk, a petition which was formally rejected, the demand contained therein not having been set forth as directed by the act of

Parliament.

The Doctor was then informed by his Lordship, that as soon as the new petition was presented, a day should be appointed for deciding the question, and at a proper period a summons served upon the defendant to appear and show cause why an order should not be issued against him for the nonpayment of the tithe.

8.—Stepney Chapel, recently erected, was consecrated by the

Lord Bishop of London.

Irish Courtship.—Clonmel.---Yesterday evening was committed to Clonmel gaol, by Francis Despard, Esq. John Bryan, of Mullinahone, he being charged on oath of Mary Burke, spinster, with being the principal of a party who foreibly and against her consent carried her away from the house of James Ryan, of Ballyvadly, farmer, with intent to marry her, as she heard. Such were the prompt exertions of Mr. Despard and his son, in turning out the military at a late hour, and such the panic struck into the misguided wretches who had committed this offence, that they were obliged to leave their victim, without any opportunity of insult, at a farmer's house about a mile from the dwelling from whence she was taken.

The Installation of Sir James Mackintosh, as Lord Rector of the University of Glasgow.---The doors of the College-hall were opened at half-past two o'clock, for the admission of students, and at three to The hall and galleries the public. were crowded to excess: soon after three the Lord Rector entered, accompanied by a number of the Professors and distinguished friends, amongst whom we observed Lords Belhaven, Gillies, and Alloway; the late Lord Rector, Mr. Campbell, of Blythswood, and Messrs. Cockburn, Moncrieff,

Murray, and Thompson:

14. Dover .-- Mr. Henry Wingfield, chief mate of his Majesty's revenue cutter, Badger, arrived here this afternoon, (as prizemaster) with a very fine cutter or dandy, named the Three Brothers. It appears that yesterday morning the Badger, whilst cruising, fell in with a suspicious sail between Boulogne and Etaples, about three leagues from the land, and suspecting her to be a smuggler, made all sail in chase; at the same time firing a gun to bring her to, and hoisting the ensign and pendant. The cutter finding the Badger gain on her, fired her stern chaser. The action then became general, and lasted from half-past seven, a.m. until half-past one p.m.; and after a running fight of six hours and a half, the cutter struck about six leagues from Dieppe. Upon boarding her, she proved to be the Three Brothers, as above stated, sailing from Flushing to the Faro Isles, having a valuable gargo of tea, tobacco, and spirits, on board, intended for illicit importation, and carrying twentyseven men, four six-pound carronades, besides swivels, and an immense quantity of fire-arms. board the smuggler the captain and one man were killed, and seyen wounded, two mortally, one of whom died this morning. board the Badger, Mr. Cullum, deputation officer, much respected in this town, was killed; Lieutenant Nazer, her commander, the second mate, and three seamen, The smuggler sailed wounded. under Dutch colours, and the value of the vessel and her cargo is estimated at upwards of 10,000%.

17.—A meeting upon the subject of parliamentary reform was held for the county of Hereford, at the Town-hall: about 5000 were present.

18.—Stated to be the coldest day known in London for fifty years. At Pentonville the Thermometer stood at eight degrees.

In Paris, it is said to have been

three degrees lower.

The following extract from the Boston Gazette exhibits another instance of the decrease of crime:

—"The sessions at Lincoln on January 18th have escaped our notice, in consequence of receiving no report of any business being transacted; and it is our agreeable office to state, that the late sessions for the city of Lincoln were maiden, there being no of-

fence, indictment, or business of any kind whatever, to bring before the Court."

19.—Mock Suns.—At Dalmellington, about mid-day, four suns were observed in the firmament at one time. An uncommon vivid halo, resembling a rainbow, half circled each of the mock suns, while the natural one was entirely surrounded.

21.—A meeting of the inhabitants of the county of Somerset was held in the town of Wells, to take into consideration the propriety of petitioning parliament on the subject of agricultural distress.

22.—An inquisition was taken before Thomas Times, gent., coroner for the county of Bedford, at Houghton Regis, on view of the body of Thomas Parkins, aged sixty-four. The deceased was by trade a chimney-sweeper, and a very singular character, having never slept in a bed for more than twenty years. His constant practice was to sleep in the barns and out-houses of the adjacent farmyards. During the week he was a constant visitor at the blacksmith's shop, where he enjoyed the double advantage of cooking his victuals and warming himself. This had been his place of daily resort for the last twenty years, except on Sundays, which he devoted wholly to sleep, being never known to move from his barn on that day. On Monday morning deceased went as usual to the blacksmith's shop, when he complained of pains in his stomach. The blacksmith gave little gin, and warmed him some broth to alleviate his pain. continued unwell till about three o'clock in the afternoon, at which

time he was sitting on the form apparently dozing. In this state the blacksmith left him for the purpose of fetching some coals in. On his return, in the course of a few minutes, deceased had fallen on the form dead. He was minutely examined by a surgeon, who gave it as his opinion, that his death was caused by water in the chest.—Verdict accordingly.

Wild Swans.—Several flights of wild swans (Anus cygnus ferus) have, within these few days, been seen in this neighbourhood, which is considered a rare circumstance. Several have been shot. person near Arundel killed two at one discharge. They measure five feet in length, and above seven and a half in breadth, and weighed from seventeen to twenty pounds each; their bills are three inches long, and of a yellowish white; the plumage of some of these birds is wholly white; that of others, white speckled with brown.—Brighton Herald.

The birds feel severely the severity of the weather, as the following singular fact will prove: -Rooks have been seen to pursue and pounce on the larks, like hawks, tearing them in pieces, and devouring them. The remains of larks, thus mangled, are not unfrequently seen in the Partridges hurt, and fields. scared from the fields, have at times perished. Blackbirds, redwings, starlings, &c. tamed by starvation, seek refuge on the house tops. Snipes have been plentiful about the brooklands. The larks are so numerous that they are conveyed to Brighton by bushels; two gunners killed 408.

A considerable part of the roof of the celebrated numbery of Ions

has fallen to the ground. The ruins have buried under them the greatest number of the beautiful and antique tomb-stones of the sisterhood.

27.-- IV anton Cruelty.--- An investigation of a case of the most wanton cruelty took place at an inquest which was terminated, after three adjournments, at Bridgwater. The subject of it was a poor boy. William Bartlett, about ten years of age, who was apprenticed to a fellow named Hunt, a sweep, in that town. It appeared that Bartlett had been prevented following his business for a fortnight by an illness brought on by the neglect and inattention of his master and mistress; on one occasion he was tied for a whole day and night to a post, without the least food whatever, during this illness; at another, in one of the coldest days of the winter, he was beaten from his bed-room entirely naked, into an adjoining yard, where he was forced into a trough of cold water, in the open air, and was compelled to remain there for half an hour! This treatment was repeated at two different times. As a climax to such inhuman depravity, this brute took him by the feet and dashed him against a brick floor: after which he beat him from one part of the house to the other, the poor boy then being in a dangerous state of health. By these and similar acts of barbarity was this unfortunate lad persecuted, till on the 20th inst. he expired in inexpressible pain. Mr. Haviland, an experienced surgeon of the town. opened the body, which was a shocking spectacle, and after a thorough examination, gave it as his decided opinion, that though inflammation existed, yet that death death was very much accelerated by ill usage and want of proper sustenance. Hunt is detained in custody until the magistrates determine as to the nature of the offence.

28.—Two ladies took the veil in the presentation convent of this town. One is the widow of Major Wilmerding, who fell gloriously at the battle of Waterloo; the other is a young lady respectably connected in this neighbourhood.—Carlon Post.

The river Coquet has during the present storm been frequented by water-fowl, which, in the memory of the oldest inhabitant of its banks, were never known to have been seen in the neighbourhood. Among many others, three exceedingly large and whitish coloured swans have been noticed hovering over the houses of Rothbury towards the stream, where one beautiful male was shot by a young man of that town. The other two took their flight down the water towards the sea .-- Tune Mercury.

A numerous meeting of the freeholders and other inhabitants of the county of Somerset, was held at Wells, in pursuance of a requisition presented to the High Sheriff, for the purpose of petitioning the House of Commons for a reform in parliament. About 5000 were present.

#### FRANCE.

M. De Chateaubriand appointed minister of foreign affairs, in lieu of the Due De Montmorency. The King's speech disclosed no intention of war.

#### PRUSSIA

The preparatory labours of the

commission named by his Majesty for digesting the plan of a constitution for the kingdom of Prussia, are nearly finished, and we have every reason to hope the result will exceed the expectations of the nation. When the deputies of the provinces of the Rhine, twenty in number, seven of whom were nobles, and thirteen commoners, had ended their sittings, the crown prince dissolved their final meeting with a speech, in which he professed himself highly satisfied with their labours, and particularly pleased with the manner in which they had declared the wishes and expectations of their fellow-citizens, and concluded by saying, "As to you, gentlemen of the nobility, I hope you are convinced, with me, that the period of privileges and immunities is past, never again to return; and that you will not therefore entertain the slightest expectation of exemptions from any burden of the State, or preference over the rest of the citizens. Whosoever seeks such must do it on the path of virtue and excellence; and in this way, but in this alone, I shall be glad to see you form the flower of the nation.

"And now, gentlemen, I request you, on your return, to tell your fellow-citizens on the Rhine, among whom I have spent some of the happiest years of my life, that none of their institutions will be taken from them unless their own representatives should in future express such a desire; and I beg you will assure them, and be assured yourselves, that government has the most ardent desire to prepare for you a constitution which will be found constitution with the spirit of the fittes we

live

live in, and satisfy all reasonable men."

#### SPAYN.

Notes were presented to the Spanish ministers from those of Austria, Russia, and Prussia, calling upon them to abolish their political system, and to liberate the King. Answers were returned to each rejecting the proposal, (see public papers.)

## TURKEY.

Accounts of insurrection of Jamizaries at Constantinople. Haleb Effendi beheaded, and his head exposed for three days in a silver charger. The fortress of Napoli di Romania surrendered to the Greeks.

# AMERICA, UNITED STATES.

The President's speech has been received, and bears ample testimony to the general prosperity of the

country.

The following list of the votes for the governors of New York, will give an idea of the prodigious numbers that vote in that State. The elections are carried on in districts by ballot, and are never attended with the least disturbance:—

New York election.—Votes for Governor Joseph C. Yates, 128,298
—Solomon Southwick, 2,913—
Lieutenant - Governor Erastus
Root, 82,450—Henry Huntington, 50,053.

# COLUMBIA, MEXICO, &c.

War is carrying forward between the royalists and constitutionalists with varied success. San Martin has relinquished his command. The city of Cartagna was entirely destroyed by an earthquake on the 7th May 1822.

# FEBRUARY.

# GREAT BRITAIN.

Dr. Jenner.—The remains of this illustrious and excellent character were deposited in the character were deposited in the character were deposited in the character of the parish church of Berkeley, Gloucestershire, in a situation rather remote. The concourse of persons, besides those immediately attendant on the ceremony, was immense; the indications of respect, reverence, and regret, were unequivocally conspicuous; every eye was moistened, and every heart oppressed.

6.—A county meeting of Middlesex was held at Hackney, for the purpose of petitioning parliament for a constitutional reform.

We noticed the circumstance of a woman and her three daughters having been committed by the magistrates at Milverton, for cutting and maiming a poor old woman, who was supposed to have "overlooked" one of the daughters. It appears that the daughter applied to Mr. Baker, of conjuring notoriety, who directed her to "draw blood from the witch," and gave her some pills, powders, &c., and an amulet to wear about her neck, with written directions for using them, of which the following is an exact literatim copy:-

"Mrs. —, The Gar of Mixtur is to be Mixt with half Pint of Gen and then a table spunfull to be taken Mornins and at Eleven O Clock four and Eight. and four of the Pills to be taken every Morning fasting. and the Paper of Powders to be Divided in ten parts and one part to be taken every night goin to bed in a little Honey.

"the Paper of Arbs is to be burnt a Small bet at a time on a

few

few Coals with a little bay and Rosemary, and while it is burning, read the two first Versess of the 68 Palm and Say the Lord's Prayer After.

This rascal has decamped from the scene of his knaveries, dreading the consequences of his impositions on the stupid folks who have been duped by him into the commission of the offence for which they are to be tried. The amulet is a small, square piece of sealing-wax, wrapped round with a piece of paper, on which some gibberish is written. — Taunton Courier.

10.—Dr. Owen appeared again at the Mansion-house to enforce 2s. 9d. in the pound as tithes in the city. He was referred by the Lord Mayor to the Lord Chancellor.

Accident at the Cobourg Theatre. -About ten o'clock, and during the performance of the second piece at this theatre, the audience were greatly alarmed by the fall of a man from the gallery into the pit. It appears the unfortunate individual was running towards the front seats with considerable speed, and losing his balance, was precipitated over the iron railing. He was taken up, apparently dead, and by the order of Mr. Barrymore, the manager, immediately conveyed to St. Thomas's Hospital.

A county meeting was held at Hertford upon the subject of par-

liamentary reform.

An inquest was held at the house of Thomas Wright, labourer, in Farcet-fen, near Pond's-bridge, by Thomas Atkinson, gent., coroner for the hundred of Norman-cross, upon the body of Ann, the wife

of the said Thomas Wright, who was murdered between five and six o'clock on the same morning. It appeared that the unfortunate woman, having an infant eleven weeks old in her arms, was, during a paroxysm of mental derangement on the part of her husband, dragged by him to the house-door, and there had her throat cut with a case-knife from ear to ear. After committing the horrid deed, the man took up the infant from beside the body of its mother, and laid it in its cradle covered with blood. He then called to a young man, a relation, who was sleeping in an upper room of the house, desiring him to take care of the children; and immediately the murderer ran away: but during the investigation by the inquest he was found in a barn not far off, where he quietly surrendered himself. The unfortunate man, about six weeks since, made a similar attempt upon his own life, and had always, before the shocking outrage on Monday morning, manifested the greatest affection for the unfortunate victim of the insanity with which he undoubtedly was afflicted. The jury, agreeably to their imperative duty in such a case, returned a verdict of "wilful murder," and the coroner committed the wretched man to Huntingdon gaol, where he will be properly treated in his melan-He is about choly situation. thirty-two years of age, and his wife was a few years older. He was employed as farming man to Mr. Clarke, of Yaxley.—Stamford Mercury.

12.—A reform meeting washeld in the Borough of Southwark

14. Bow-street. - Poachers. - Information

Information was received at this office a few days ago, by Sir R. Birnie, of a daring and atrocious outrage committed by poschers in the grounds of Mr. Leathes, of Shropham-hall, Norfolk. On the night of the 29th ult., a party of seven keepers, in the service of that gentleman, were on the lookout for poachers, when they were met by nine of that desperate class of men, armed with fowlingpieces, and carrying a considerable quantity of game. called upon the poachers to surrender or to quit the grounds, but, without making any reply, they commenced an attack upon the keepers. A severe conflict took place, which ended in the defeat of the keepers, four of whom were left senseless on the ground, and have continued ever since in a precarious state. principal keeper, whose name is Skinner, still keeps his bed, and his recovery is doubtful. ground where the conflict took place was covered with blood, broken gun-stocks, and other marks of the desperate affray.

Sir R. Birnie sent Bishop, one of the principal officers, who has distinguished himself greatly in this line of service during the present season, to Shropham-hall, and he succeeded in apprehending five men, on suspicion of being concerned in the outrage. names were Charles West, John Lines, John Moore, John Sparling, and James Bobby. Bobby, after being a short time in custody, impeached his fellow-prisoners, and they were fully committed to Norwich Castle for trial, he being committed also to give evidence.

The prisoners were all labour-

ing men in the neighbourhood, generally employed in digging gravel at nine-pence a-day. They defended themselves before the magistrates on the ground of their inability to maintain their families on such a pittance, the parish refusing to assist them; and they having no other resource but either robbery or poaching, they had chosen the latter as the least offence of the two.

15.—A county reform meeting at Cambridge.

20.—Accident at a Provincial Theatre.—Shortly after the commencement of the second act of Tom and Jerry, one of the gaslights in the third box from the stage, on the right side of the house, by some mischance had set fire to the wood-work that enclosed the pipe. The consequence was, an immediate and very unmeasured alarm of 'Fire!' pervaded the house, particularly the gallery, which, unfortunately, was very much crowded. Notwithstanding it was soon apparent to the company in the boxes and the pit (both which places were but thinly filled), that there was little or no danger to be apprehended, the people in the gallery were not to be tranquillized. Considerable efforts were made from the stage, too, to persuade them, that if they would but patiently wait a very short time, they would see every thing restored to order. All in vain: a deaf ear was turned to the judicious advice given to them—and with a tremendous rush, they struggled Wofully distressing for egress. was the result—eight individuals were literally trodden to death! These are two young women of the names of Green and Johnson, a

Mrs. Riddell Robson (the wife of a respectable builder, who himself escaped with some very terrible bruises), a fine youth aged fourteen, son to Mr. Wilkinson, the veterinary surgeon; a young man of the name of Handasyde, aged about eighteen, son to Mr. Handasyde the bookbinder; an elderly person of the name of Edwards, a cellerman to Messrs. Laidler and Co., spirit-dealers; a person of the name of Heaton, belonging to Gateshead; and a stranger, a stout man, apparently between forty and fifty years of age.

mind.

#### FRANCE.

The Ultras are pressing forward the war against Spain---it is unpopular with many, and in the army a superior officer and six subalterns have been dismissed " for professing bad principles." The merchants of Lyons, and of some other towns, have petitioned for peace. On the 16th there was a disturbance at Lyons, occasioned by the opposition offered by the authorities and the military to the progress of a procession of masks. which, under the privilege of Carnival, represented the Funeral of Trade. The car was taken and retaken, and the military ultimately beaten off. The next day, in the afternoon, an individual uttered aloud several times on the Place Bellecour, the forbidden cry of "Vive l'Empereur." Attempts were made by gendarmes and officers to arrest him, but he was

suddenly surrounded by a maniber of persons who struck them and rescued him. The crowd increased, and the menacing cries of "Into the Rhone!" were heard. A strong military force having at last been assembled, order was restored, and with much difficulty the offending individual was seized and placed in the hands of justice.

## SPAIN.

The Cortes are making vigorous preparations for war. A levy of 29,973 men is added to the existing army of 37,000. Urgel was evacuated by the royalists on the 3d.

## ITALY.

Rome, Feb. 1.—They are occupied at present, at Rome, in the canonization of an old priest, who died " in the odour of sanctity;" the venerable servant of the Lord, John Baptiste Rossi, canon of the Church of St. Mary, born at Voltaggio, in the diocese of Genes, on the 22d of February, 1698, and settled at Rome in 1711, where he emulated the virtues of St. Gaetan and St. Philip Neri. He appears to be a new apostle for the capital of the Christian world. He belonged to many brotherhoods, and served the pilgrims in Hospitals of the Trinity, where he died, on the 29th of May, 1764. His body reposes in the church of the Hospital. On the 28th of January, a Sitting of Rites was held to examine if John Baptiate had practised virtue in an heroic degree. This Sitting took place in the presence of his Eminence the Cardinal, Dean of the Sacred College, Prefect of the Rites,

Rises, and reputer of the cause, for the success of which prayers have been offered in many of the churches of Rome.

#### RUSSIA.

St. Petersburgh, Feb. 4 .-- The Spanish Charge d'Affaires at this Court has received his passports. On the night of the 28th ult. the nalace of Prince Gultzin, Governor-General of Moscow, was destroyed by fire. The cold was so severe, that the fire-engines could not be used, the water instantly freezing. A numerous company of persons of distinction was assembled at a ball, given in honour of the birth-day of her Majesty the Empress Elizabeth pily none of the company periched.

## SOUTH AMERICA.

San Martha is taken by the royalists.

# GERMANY.

Frankfort, Feb. 4 .-- The Mentz Gazette gives a deplorable picture of the breaking-up of the ice at Coblentz. The water, it says, rose to the height of 221 feet, penetrated with large masses of ice into the city, and inundated the lower streets during the space of two hours. The waters flowed back with great fury against the bridge of the Moselle; all at once this ancient chef-d'œuvre, which had resisted the storms of many centuries, fell in with a horrible crash. Two hours after there was no more water in the streets: it had only left in them masses of ice, and soon after the Moselle was clear.

Carlsruhe, Feb. 2.---The last sitting but one of the Second Cham-

ber of the States had a melancholy conclusion. The debate was en the military establishment of the grand ducky; it was fixed in the budget at 1,648,000 floring. The Government consented to a reduction of 48,000 floring, but insisted on the sum of 1.600.000 floring as absolutely necessary to defray the expenses of the military establishment, such as it had been agreed to by the Chamber itself. and such as the obligations of Baden, as a member of the German The Gor confederation, required. vernment showed, that in the other States of Germany the assembly of the States had allowed a military establishment more considerable The Chamber proportion. would not enter into any details, insisting that it had not the necessary information to judge; but it persisted in its refusal to allow more than 1,500,000 florins.

The Government, hoping and desiring to bring the Chamber to agree with it respecting the other points, declared that it had need of the sum required, to fulfil its obligation as a member of the confederation, and which, by article 68 of the constitution, the assembly of the States cannot hinder it from discharging. It therefore required that the Chamber, without abandoning its resolution, should be content with this declaration. and not prevent the Government. by virtue of its right as a confederate state, to include in the budget the military establishment for the sum of 1,600,000 floring. The Chamber voted on this point the 30th of January. The proposal of the Government was rejected by 30 votes to 29. Thus one vote has destroyed, in one moment, all the benefits of a la-

borious

borious session of above seven months.

Hamburgh, Feb. 4.—The Foreign Cabinets having proposed certain changes to the King of Saxony, that Monarch replied to them—"For many years I have been very well satisfied with my people, and my people are satisfied with me—what more is wanted? My subjects have never done me any harm. I see nothing to change."

The King of Bavaria has also refused to accede to the demands made for restricting the sittings of the States-General, and submitting the press to a more severe cen-

sorship.

Berlin, Feb. 8.--The Royal Government at Cologne has given notice, as a warning to those whom it may concern, that Prussian subjects who go as soldiers to Greece, are not to expect any kind of assistance on their return; and "the less so, as the distress which there awaits them will have been wholly drawn on them by transgressing their duty as subjects, in attaching themselves to a cause foreign to those duties, and in its own nature criminal."

Malta, Feb. 21 .--- An accident took place here on Shrove Tuesday of the most fatal and appalling nature. It is the custom on that day to attract the poor boys away from the crowd and riot in the streets (it being the last day of the Carnival,) by making a procession to one of the churches, and afterwards distributing bread to them. Previous to their receiving the bread, they were all (in number about 700) put in the corridor of the convent—a room where, I believe, there were no windows, and there locked in. The cries of the poor creatures were shortly heard

from inside calling for assistance, and to be let out, but the man with the key was not to be found: the alarm outside was tremendous. as the door could not be opened: at length a man who thought his son was inside, rushed forward and broke it open, when a dreadful scene presented itself, a great number of these poor boys having been suffocated. The consternation in the city on this being known was indescribable. bodies were taken out, but there being so many, no one knew what to do with them. Twenty were taken to one doctor's shop, and a great number to the hospital. where I saw more than 95 bodies of young lads, from 10 to 14, lying breathless on the floor.

"The expressions of the mob against the priests and friars were very violent, as it was attributed to them. The number of dead, by a proclamation from Government, who wish to hush the business, is stated to be about 100. At least 130 were killed, and the general number is stated to be 153. An investigation is to be made by Government into the

affair."

## GREECE.

Zante, Feb. 14.—After the memorable victory of the 6th, achieved by the inhabitants of Missolunghi, who repulsed six successive assaults by the Turks on a fortified causeway which leads to the town, Omer Brioni, Pacha of Janina, retired, leaving 1500 men in the place. The way by which they retreated was not known for two days. They were pursued as far as the bridge of Princios, and he came by the way of the lake of Soudi; the pursuers having discovered

covered that the enemy abandoned their camp, covered with cots and tents, which they could not approach for fear of an ambuscade, it was decided that the ground as far as Tygos should be recon-Intelligence was also noitred. received that 1800 Greeks from the coasts of the Morea had taken up a position before Trisonia, and advanced by the defiles of Mount Coracasto Fidaris, whilst Marc Botzaris advanced towards Vrachori, at the head of 1500 men, by Lenenon.

The movement from Missolunghi having been calculated according to this base of operations, its first object was to proceed to the camp of Omer Brioni, the Pacha, which was entirely abandoned, and where six cannons, ammunition, provisions, and even the magnificent tent of Chourschid Pacha, were found. All these became the booty of the Christians, who soon learned that Omer Pacha had retired to Vrachori.

#### CHINA.

Chinese Coronation .--- The Emperor Kea-King died on the 2nd of September, 1820. An universal mourning was immediately decreed throughout the empire. The proclamation received at Canton soon after the event, declared that the " Dragon on horseback," on the 25th of 7th moon, at Jero (the Warm River) became a guest in heaven; and therefore all persons were ordered, on pain of death, immediately to pluck the red fringe hairs from their caps. put on mourning dresses, and to abstain from shaving, playing on musical instruments, marrying, and sacrificing, for an hundred days. 1823.

All red papers posted up in the streets were to be pulled down, and all edicts were to be written in blue ink. The mourning at court was to be expressed by the removal of ornaments, cutting off the hair, stamping with the feet, &c. and the successor to the throne was to act as chief mourner. Libations also were to be poured out before the coffin.

The days of universal mourning, customary on the decease of a monarch, were infringed upon at this. time for twenty-four hours, in order to give place for the splendid ceremonies; though the successor declared he was strenuously opposed to such a measure, and had been finally induced to give his consent to it, only by the persuasion of the Board of Ceremonies. In the morning the foot-guards were marched in, and stationed at the city gates. The Board of Rites, and the members of the Hung-loo Office, assembled at the Imperial Council Chamber, and placed the seal table, the report table, the edict table, and the writing table, in their proper places. - The yellow table was set on the red steps at the foot of the throne.

The imperial guard then placed in order, the imperial travelling equipage in front of the Temple of Peace, the foot-chariot (drawn by men) without the palace gate, the five imperial carriages without the Woo-gate, with the docile elephants standing south of them.

The horse guards were formed in a double line along the middle avenue of the vestibule; and the imperial canopy and the cloudcapt basin were set within the vestibule.

The members of the Board of
(B) Music

Music then ranged along the palace causeway the ancient musical instruments used by Sheen, and those which are used on common state occasions were deposited within the palace. Just without the Woo-gate were placed other musical instruments together with the canopies or umbrellas, called the Dragon Dome and the Incense Dome.

Under the direction of the Board of Public Works, the Golden Phœnix was put in the middle of the gate of Celestial Repose, and a stage erected in the first chamber on the east side of it.

The petition, requesting the Emperor to ascend the throne, was then laid on the report table in the Council Chamber; the proclamation on the edict table, and the pencil and ink on the writing table. This done, the members of the Council Chamber, with the Prime Minister at their head, proceeded to the gate of his Majesty's private apartments, called the gate of Celestial Purity, to beg for the Imperial Seal; and returning to the Council Chamber, laid it on the seal table in the middle of the apartment, south of the throne.

The kings, nobles, &c. of the imperial kindred, down to the eighth generation, were then introduced, and placed round the elevation at the foot of the throne; while the great civil and military officers ranged themselves according to their rank in the vestibule.

The President of the Board of Rites went at an appointed hour to entreat his Majesty to put on his mourning, and come through the gate of the eastern palace, into the left door of the middle palace. There he presented himself before the altar of his father, declared that

he received the decree; and kneeling three times, and bowing nine times, returned to the side palace, and soon afterwards went in his robes to pay his respects to his mother, who was also arrayed in her robes and on her throne. Here also his Majesty kneeled three times, and bowed nine times.

The golden chariot was then brought up before the door of the Emperor's apartments; and the officer of the Mathematical Board, whose business it is to "observe times," came and announced that the chosen and felicitous moment had arrived! when the Emperor came out at the left door of his apartments, and mounted his chariot, to proceed to the Palace of Protection and Peace.

The president and ten great officers of the Board of Rites preceded the chariot; twenty chief officers of the Leopard-tail Guards, half armed with swords, and half with spears (perhaps musquets,) walking on both sides, and two officers of the personal guard closing the procession.

When his Majesty had descended and sat down in the Royal middle palace, the president of the Hung-loo office led out the great officers of the interior, and ranged them according to their rank; the officers of the Imperial Guard, the Council Chamber, the National Institute, the Chim-sze Office, the Ke-ken Office, the Board of Rites, and the Censor Office, and called on them to kneel thrice and bow nine times.

The president of the Board of Rites then besought his Majesty on his knees to ascend the throne: when the procession moved on as before to the Palace of Peace, and his Majesty mounted the seat of

gems,

1828.]

gems, and sat down upon the throne, and the bells immediately began to ring, and the drums to beat at the Woo-gate.-- "Strike the whip!" cried the chief of the Imperial Guard, and a brazen rod was struck at the foot of the throne. The attendant Ministers then ranged themselves in ranks, and the Kings and Dukes took their places on the red steps at the foot of the throne, and the civil and military officers in the vestibule. The Master of Ceremonies, that their motions might be simultaneous, cried with a loud voice, "Kneel three times! bow your heads to the ground nine times, rise and retire!" Which done, they took their former places.

Next appeared the Prime Minister, who took the proclamation and carried it with great formality, first to the middle table, where it was sealed, and then to the Palace of Peace, where the president of the Board of Rites received it, and taking it back again, laid it on the table at the foot of the throne, with a profound reverence, and rising, placed it in the cloud-capt basin, over which the officers of the Imperial Guard spread out the yellow canopy, and proceeded with it out of the palace. The civil and military officers likewise went out; and the Emperor returned to his private apartments, when, changing his robes, he resumed his mourning.

The seal was returned to the imperial residence, and the proclamation placed in the dragon dome at the Woo-gate. After several ceremonies, the proclamation was laid on a yellow table, upon a high stage, and the two domes were set down in front of the gate of Celestial Repose. After other ceremonies in the same taste which we have not room to transcribe, the coronation concluded.

#### RUSSIA.

A Russian army is formed upon the Oder. The Czar being determined in every way to aid the cause of despotism against Spain, has ordered an army of 70,000 men to hold themselves in readiness to march. An additional duty had been laid upon salt from England by the Russian Government, which amounts almost to a prohibition.

## ITALY.

Letters from Naples of the 11th inst. state that a severe shock of an earthquake was felt on the 5th at Palermo, by which a number of houses and churches were destroyed, 21 persons killed, and 125 wounded. The damage done to the city alone was estimated at 50,000l. It was not ascertained that any other part of Sicily had suffered.

## TURKEY.

An article from Semlin, of the 18th of March, mentions that the quarter of Pera, at Constantinople, has been burnt. It says, "Pera has at length experienced the fate with which it has long been menaced, and we must expect more disastrous news. The number of houses burnt is stated at 12 and even 20,000. It is also said, that the palace of Lord Strangford has been burnt.

#### CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Cape-town papers of the 16th of November have been received; there is in them a long account of (B 2) the

the trial and execution of a young gentleman named Gebhard, the son of the clergyman, for the murder of a slave belonging to his father, by excessive and unlawful punishment. After his trial and conviction, the prisoner appealed against it to the highest tribunal of the country; but on hearing his case, the Court discharged the appeal, and confirmed his sentence of death, and the unfortunate young man consequently suffered the awful punishment inflicted by law.

#### INDIA.

Extract of a letter from Surat. dated Nov. 3 .- "You will ere this doubtless have heard of the late dreadful overflowings in this part of the world, but I question if you have heard of half the calamitous circumstances attending this visitation. On Sunday night I sent my horses outside the fort, at the risk of their lives, and it was fortunate I did so, or they would have been drowned. Some gentlemen had their horses standing in water all the time. Udalat terrace, near the flag staff, has been most dreadfully cut up, as well as many of the bridges at the town gates. The lines were overflowed, and the sepoys of both battalions dispersed. E---- exerted himself nobly; he brought away the sick of both battalions to a safe place. The battalion and officers at Borachee were saved by remaining on the tops of the barracks. The water was five feet deep under them, and running at a terrible rate. Many a house has fallen, and many a village is swept away. Bodies were seen continually floating down the river. A similar calamity has hap-

pened at Broack, by the rising of the Nurbudda, and part of the Udalat has tumbled down. The consequences there have been more calamitous than in our neighbourhood. Two hundred miles of rich and highly cultivated country were completely inundated, and a passage for boats was practicable between the town-gates and village of Okliseer.

## CHINA.

Intelligence was received by the Berwickshire East Indiaman. which left Canton on the 18th of November, of a most destructive fire in that city. It broke out on the night of the 1st, at the city wall, near the back of the European factories, and did not cease in its destructive career till it had levelled them with the ground, together with a space of nearly two miles square of the dwellings and manufactories of the Chinese. The number of houses destroyed is estimated at 13,700, according to the English account, but the Chinese make it amount to 16,000. Five hundred Chinese are said to have lost their lives during the conflagration. A strong gale of wind which blew at the time, assisted the fury of the element; and as the natives would not permit their houses to be pulled down; all the efforts of the Europeans to stop its progress were The fire continued unavailing. to burn till five o'clock on the morning of the 3d. The seamen belonging to the Company's ships exerted themselves to save the factories, but could not prevent the destruction of the whole of the warehouses. It was equally impossible to save the greater part of the goods within them, and the

loss to the Company has consequently been extremely great. The statements vary as to its extent, some describing it as 500,000%. and others as high as 1,000,000/. Wollens, raw silk, nansterling. keens, and 30,000 chests of green tea are the principal articles said to have been destroyed. Company's treasure was saved, and had been sent on board their own ships. The actual loss of British private property is said to have been extremely small, except what may be hereafter sustained by the failure of the Hong or security merchants, to make good their engagements. These, as might be expected, were among the principal sufferers; and three of them, whose names are Mouqua. Chinqua, and Paunthequa, are said -to have sustained losses to the amount of 300,000% sterling. this fire; 40,000 of the Chinese are said to have been deprived of their · habitations, which is probably below the truth, in so dense a population as that of Canton. estimated that the cost of restoring the buildings destroyed, would exceed 13,000,000 of dollars; and that some years must elapse before Canton can recover its former situation.

## JAVA.

Dreadful Eruption of a Volcuno in the Island of Java.—On the 8th of October last year, about two o'clock in the afternoon, a part of the Regency of Sumadang was visited by a most terrible natural phenomenon.

On that day the mountain of Galoeng Goeng, on the borders of Sumadang and Limbaugan, which was known to be a volcano, suddenly emitted a most devastating

torrent of lava, which destroyed no fewer than eighty-eight kampongs, and in which 2000 persons perish-It has not been possible to obtain complete and accurate information respecting this afflicting event; the following particulars, however, may be mentioned. explosion resembling the report of a piece of heavy artillery was suddenly heard, and a cloud of black smoke was seen to rise from the foot of the mountain, accompanied by such a violent wind, that houses and trees were thrown down by it. On this, complete darkness ensued, and then for the space of three hours a shower of burning ashes, and a torrent of lara which covered the country all around, to the extent of twenty pal, carrying away, burying, and burning the houses, trees, and inhabitants. the expiration of three hours it was light again, and a quantity of sand and small stones fell.

#### SOUTH AMERICA.

By letters received on Saturday from St. Jago de Chile, it appears that on the night of the 19th November, a shock of an earthquake was experienced, the most severe ever remembered in that country. Its duration was of the very extraordinary space of four minutes, during which the earth is described as being in continued motion, resembling the rolling of a heavy sea. lts effects were most fatal at Valparaiso, where, it is said, few houses were left standing: of these but a small proportion were habitable. There is some variation, however, in the accounts, as respects Valparaiso; and as it is natural to expect, under the first impression of so awful a calamity, that there should be much exaggeration.

geration, it is probable that has been the case in the present instance. The loss of lives in Valparaiso is stated at from 150 to 200, among whom are some Eng-The only names mentioned are those of a Mr. Stevenson, and of Mr. and Mrs. Kelly. Most of the villages in Chile had suffered severely, and some of them were destroyed. No intelligence had been received from Conception, but equally dreadful accounts were anticipated from thence. At Santiago the shock had been comparatively slight; no lives were lost there, nor any houses thrown down, but all the churches, except three, had been so much injured as to require taking down, and it would be necessary to rebuild many of the houses before they be rendered could habitable. From the 19th up to the 28th of November, which is the date of the letters, slight shocks had occurred daily, so that many of the inhabitants slept in tents without the city, only venturing into their houses to take meals, during which time all the doors were kept open.

# MARCH. GREAT BRITAIN.

Oxford Assizes.—The following very brutal wager has led to an action at the Oxford Assizes:—
"Burford, July 8, 1822. A bet is this day made between Mr. Mann and Mr. Cole, for 30l., in the manner following:—Mr. Cole to ride a bay pony, in his possession; and Mr. William Mann to ride a chesnut hackney, in his possession; each party to ride his own horse through Cheltenham as far as Gloucester, and back to Burford (the place from whence they start).

They are to start on July 16th together, and that which returns to Burford first, to be the winner. Each to ride the same road.— Signed by both parties, and witnessed by Mr. Henry Webb.". The result of the above wager was, that each party rode his own horse sixty-four miles in five hours and a half, and that the lives of both animals fell victims to the cruelty of their owners. The advantage, however, was with Mann, but he disputed his loss to Cole, on the ground that he (Cole) had got off his horse before it arrived at Burford, and had walked by the side of the animal into the town. The question was then referred to the Jockey Club at Newmarket, and the club decided that it was "a drawn bet." Notwithstanding this decision, Mr. Beale, the stakeholder, refused to deliver up the stakes to the parties; which might be owing to the circumstance of a number of other wagers and other sums of money which he held, depending upon the issue of the present case; and an action was brought by Cole against Beale .-- Verdict for the plaintiff, damages 191., the amount of the stake.

7.—The grand dinner to the Spanish and Portuguese Ambassadors was given at the City of London Tavern. We never, on any occasion, remember to have seen a more imposing and splendid company. The most distinguished Members of both Houses of Parliament, and the most eminent persons of the commercial and monied interests, filled the room. At five o'clock not a place was to be had at the tables, and upwards of 400 persons had taken their seats.

20.—Mr. Ravenga, Envoy from the Republic of Colombia to this country, was arrested for a sum of 90,000 99,000l., due from that Government, at the suit of Mackintosh, the army accourtement-maker.

21.—General Dumouriez.—This day the remains of the once celebrated General Dumouriez were interred in a vault, within the parish church of St. Mary, Henley-on-Thames. It is a remarkable circumstance, that the late General arrived at Turville mansion this very day twelve month, about half-past two o'clock in the afternoon, at which time, this day, the funeral service was being performed.

#### IRELAND.

The amount of the petitions for burnings, and other destruction of property, delivered in to the Clerk of the Peace of Cork, is 10.5861. 4s. 10d.

26.—"This morning, at 10 a.m., the Alert, Morgan, Liverpool Packet, from Dublin to Liverpool, struck on the West Mouse Rock, near the Skerries Light House, and in half an hour after went down; the captain and crew, excepting the ateward and a boy, were saved; from ten to fourteen of the passengers were also saved; about 130 perished. Boats from this place have picked up and landed tweaty-six of the dead bodies."

The body of the late Earl of St. Vincent was privately interred, precisely at four o'clock, on Wednesday afternoon, March 26th, in the family vault at Stone. The following is an exact copy of the inscription (in English) upon the superb coffin, which is covered with scarlet velvet:---

JOHN EARL OF ST. VINCENT,
Viscount St. Vincent, Baron Jervia,
Of Meaford
In the County of Stafford,
One of His Majesty's Honourable Privy Council,
and
Admiral of the Plest, General of the Marines,
&c. &c.
Died March 15th, 1823,
In the 99th year of his age:

## PRANCE.

The Minister of Finance brought forward his budget, in which he demands a vote of credit for 100,000,000 francs, and a new creation of 4,000,000 francs de rente.

The Paris papers are chiefly occupied with the expulsion of M. Manuel from the Chamber of Deputies, during the present sessions, for the speech which he delivered on the 26th ult. against the war with Spain. The decree passed on Monday; but regarding that as illegal and unconstitutional, on Tuesday, supported by many of his friends, M. Manuel took his usual seat. The President informed him of the decree, and advised him to withdraw, but he refused, and declared he would only yield to The sittings were then suspended for an hour; in the mean time the principal doorkeeper entered and read to him the order he had received for his exclusion. M. M. remained firm, and the door-keeper called in a piquet of the National Guards; the Serjeant and his men refused to act, which produced shouts of bravo! from M. Manuel's friends, as well in the galleries as on the floor of the Chamber. The Gendarmerie were then called in, who laid hold of him and hurried him out of the Chamber, followed by all the members on the left side; but after his exclusion the agitation was such, that the President was obliged to adjourn the sitting.

On Wednesday morning MM. Foy, Demarcay, and other members of the left side (i. c. of the Opposition) delivered a protest against the proceedings adopted toward M. Manuel; but the ma-

jority

jority refused to hear it read, and all the members of the left side, except two (i. e. about 170) withdrew in a body, and the remainder voted the supplies for war.

There appeared an order of the day of the National Guard, thus

worded:-

" March 10, 1823.

"A Sub-officer of the Fourth Legion, who was on service at the Chamber of Deputies, is accused of having refused to execute the orders of the President of the Chamber.

"So serious a charge ought to be examined with the strictest justice; consequently, a Council of Discipline will be summoned to pronounce on the disobedience of which the said officer is charged.

"The officer who commanded the post will be alike delivered over to the appointed Council, which will have to judge of the crime.

" Major-General Duke de Clermont-Tonnerre."

The Sergeant, Mercier, is daily receiving fresh proofs from his comrades of their approbation of his conduct. A great number of the grenadiers of the 3d battalion of the 2d legion of the National Guard are about to present him with a gold snuff-box, with an inscription alluding to his conduct on the 4th of March. — French paper.

#### GERMANY.

The Prelates and the Nobles of the Duchy of Holstein have preferred a complaint, before the Germanic Diet, against their Sovereign the King of Denmark. They declare, that their ancient institutions have been violated, and that justice has been denied them. They entreat the mediation of the Diet, to obtain for themselves and for their country a Constitution conformable to the necessity of the times.

Frankfort, March 2.—In the sitting of the Germanic Diet, Feb. 24th, a majority of sixteen votes to one came to the following resolution on the communication which has been made to it by the cabinets of Austria, Prussia, and Russia, of the circulars relative to the result of the Congress at Verona.

"The Confederation assures these Sovereigns of its perfect adherence to the wise and conservatory principles which are employ-

ed in these circulars.

"The President of the Diet, acting in the place of the Minister of Austria, shall express these sentiments in the name of the Confederation, in an answer analogous to the communications which it has received."

The Minister of Wurtemburg said, that from the motives stated in the declaration of his Sovereign, which was entered in the Journals in the third sitting, he could not take any part in the resolution.

## NETHERLANDS.

Strict neutrality will be observed by the Netherlands during the hostilities between France and Spain. A Royal decree orders that no fitting out of privateers under the French or the Spanish flag shall take place in the ports of that kingdom or of its colonies; that neither the cruisers of Belligerent Powers, nor the vessels captured by them, shall be admitted into the said ports; and that in case they should be obliged to put into them to repair any damages, they shall be obliged to

put to sea again without loss of

#### SPAIN.

Opening of the Spanish Cortes .--The Sessions was opened this day. The Act of the last Preparatory Junta, or Installation of Cortes, having been read, was approved

Several Deputies took the oaths and their seats.

An official despatch was read by the secretary of Grace Justice, stating that, as his Majesty's health did not permit his assisting at the opening of the Session, as he had already stated, the Secretary of Despatch would deliver to the President the speech which his Majesty would have had the satisfaction of pronoun-The Secretary of the Government delivered the said discourse to the President, who read it as follows:---

"Gentlemen Deputies - The extraordinary circumstances under which this session is opened, present an immense field to the patriotism of the Representatives of the Spanish people, and will make it famous in the national annals. Spain, now the object of attention to all nations, will solve the grand problem which occupies the minds of Kings and People. On the event are depending the hopes, the fears, the interests of humanity, and the caprices of ambition and arrogance.

"The continental monarchies of the Holy Alliance have raised their voices against the political institutions of this country, which has obtained its independence and liberty at the price of its blood. Spain, answering the insidious intimations of those Potentates, has

solemnly manifested to the world, that its fundamental laws must not be dictated but by itself.

"This principle, clear and luminous, can only be attacked by sophistry, aided by arms, and those who appeal to this last reason in the nineteenth century, have the highest testimony of the injustice of their cause.

"His Christian Majesty has said that one hundred thousand Frenchmen would come to arrange the domestic affairs of Spain, and to amend the errors of her institutions---when was it that the office was given to soldiers to amend laws? In what code is it written that military invasions shall be the forerunners of happiness to any people.

"It is unworthy of reason to combat such anti-social errors: and it is not becoming the Constitutional King of Spain to make any apology for the just national cause, especially when to avoid all sentiments of shame, they cover themselves with the mantle of the

most detestable hypocrisy.

" I hope that the energy, firmness, and constancy of the Cortes will be the best answer to the Speech of his Most Christian Majesty. I hope that, firm in their principles, and resolved to tread in the path of their duty, they will always be the Cortes of the 9th and 11th of January, and will prove themselves in every respect worthy of the nation which has confided to them its destinies. hope that reason and justice will prove as strong as the spirit of oppression and slavery. The nation which capitulates with a foe whose bad faith is so notorious, is a nation already subjugated: to receive laws which an enemy wishes to impose by force of arms, is the

greatest ignominy.

"If war is already the irreparable evil, the nation is magnanimous, and will again hasten to combat for its independence and rights. The road to glory is already known to the nation, and the sacrifices which this struggle may require will be trivial. ---Firmness and patriotism offer a thousand resources, which in the hands of Spaniards will always produce the happiest results. For my part, I again offer the National Congress to co-operate by my efforts towards realizing the hopes entertained by the friends of the liberal institutions in Spain, by putting in execution all the means in my power to repel force by force.—My seasonable removal, and that of the Cortes, to a place less exposed to the influence of military operations, must paralyze the plans of the enemy, and avoid the suspension of the influence of active Government, which ought to be communicated to every corner of the monarchy.

"The army, whose services in the just cause are so great, is in a state of organization, and is recruiting, according to the late decrees of the Cortes. The victories which they obtain against the factious will be the forerunners of other more interesting ones over

foreign enemies.

"The provinces display in general the best spirit. The misfortunes they have suffered from those who call themselves the Defenders of Religion, have dissipated the illusion of the Government, and convinced all that the Constitution is the only true road.

"The altercations in our diplomatic relations have not diminished the national spirit. The timid, who never calculate on their resources, and the wicked, who avail themselves of their weakness, can never alter the sentiments of illustrious nations that are not accustomed to sanction injustice.

"In general the various branches of the public Administration present a prospect the most favourable. The Cortes will continue, with their usual zeal, the important tasks they have undertaken, and the national prosperity, which they have in view, will consolidate the Constitutional system, defended by valour and energy.

(Signed) "Ferdinand."

"Palace, 1st March, 1823."

# APRIL.

## GREAT BRITAIN.

The following is a statement of the London Hospitals, read on Easter Monday last, in the usual way : Christ's Hospital .-- Children put forth apprentices, 195; buried last year, 6; children under care of the Hospital, 1060; to be admitted on presentation, 150. Bartholomew's. --- Patients admitted, cured, and discharged last year, 9969; buried, 277; remaining inpatients, 484; ditto out-patients, 333; so that there has been under care of this Hospital last year, 11,063. St. Thomas's .- Patients admitted, cured, and discharged last year, 10,062; buried, 198; remaining in-patients, 442; ditte out-patients, 332; under care of the Hospital last year, 11,029. Hospital. — Vagrants Bridewell committed by the Lord Mayor and Aldermen, 359; apprentices sent for solitary confinement, 36; persons to be sent to different parishes, 92; apprentices to be brought

brought up to different trades, 15. Bethlem Hospital.—Remaining in the Hospital on the 1st of Jan. 1822, 216; admitted since January 1822, 172; cured and discharged last year, 162; remain under cure and incurable to Dec. 31, 1822, 226.

The salmon fishings on the river Ness have this year proved very unsuccessful, and upon an inquiry into the cause, it is discovered that great numbers of the salmon fry follow the water of the canal after issuing from Loch Ness, and getting within the locks, they become sickly, and many of them die. Immense shoals of them have been discovered in this state, and the fishers have discovered that those that escape to the sea through the canal, are so weakened and diseased by lying so long in the standing water, that they instantly become a prey to other fish.

Mr. Capper, superintendent of the convict establishment, has reported to the secretary for the home department, "that a vast number of the convicts, of late received on board the hulks, have brought with them, from the respective gaols, such reports of bad character, that but slight hope of refermation can be looked for by their detention in any establishment in this country." On the 1st of January 1822, there were 2807 prisoners on board all the convict ships; since which period there have been received from the respective gaols 2200 (being 550 less than in the year 1821). During the year, 1470 have been transported to New South Wales (being 550 less than the preceding year); 85 have been removed to the penitentionary; 367 discharged by pardon or otherwise; five have escaped, and forty-nine have died; leaving 3031 prisoners in confinement in the several depots on the 1st instant.

19.—A curious chymical phenomenon is now to be seen in a field near Lilleshall coal works, in the possession of Mrs. Brigden, of Muckston in Shropshire. draining the field a few days ago, a gentleman in the neighbourhood discovered that immediately under the surface of the earth, what was supposed, from the croaking noise, to be water, was carbonated hydrogen gas; which, on a light being applied to it, instantly took fire, and blazed brilliantly for a short period. 'The whole field is underlaid with this vapour; and, from the number of people who visit and re-kindle it, is kept "in a perpetual illumination."

#### SPAIN.

The French army crossed the Bidassoa, and advanced towards Madrid on the 7th. A slight skirmish took place with some refugees, but no other opposition was manifested until the French army approached St. Sebastian. when the garrison made a sortie, but finding itself too weak to make an impression on the enemy, it retreated to the fortifications. which were summoned to surrender, and an attack made, which was repulsed with loss to the French of a considerable number of men. The Duke of Angou. leme is said to have had a narrow escape. The Duke on entering Spain issued a proclamation.

## GERMANY.

In the Summer of 1822, the university of Berlin had 1182 students; Bonn, 571; Breslau,

539 :

539; Halle, 866; Kænisberg, 259: the number at Griesswalde is unknown. The total number of students in Prussia, in 1822, is 1236 students of theology (193 only being Catholics); 1069 in law; 644 in medicine; 468 in philosophy and philology. Those at Griesswalde are but few, and should be added to make this list perfect.

#### SWITZERLAND.

The follies of the religious sects, of which we had not heard any thing for some time, have just been renewed in the same places that formerly were the theatre of their offensive proceedings. disgusting scene took place some days ago in the village of Truelliker, in the canton of Zurich. A individuals. women, shut themselves up in a house, under pretext of praying. An hour afterwards a dreadful noise was heard. The people assemble, the inhabitants of the neighbourhood hasten to the spot, and demand in vain that the house shall be opened. Meantime the tumult increased every moment, the door was at length forced open, and these wretched people were all found stretched on the ground, in various groups, closely embracing each other. They were all arrested. Their depositions present nothing but instances of deplorable folly; they pretend to be inspired by God, and a girl who is pregnant is always the organ by which his will is manifested to them. Some of them have been taken to the madhouse.

In the night of the 14th, a young female visionary pretended

that Bonaparte had appeared to ber, and had inspired her with the resolution to die, to save several thousands of souls. This apparition inflamed the imagination of several fanatics, and the sacrifice was instantly resolved Men, women, and young girls, immediately prepare instruments for the execution, fasten the unfortunate young woman to a board, and amidst the cries of joy uttered by the victim, they drive nails into her feet and handstear her breast-dash her head to pieces with a mallet-and sing pious hymns to celebrate her The magistrates, being informed, hastened to the spot. Six of the guilty have been arrested, and the investigation is still going on.—A sister of this unhappy young woman has also perished in the most cruel tortures. Journal de Frankfort.

## GREECE.

Genoa, April 6.—Letters from Corfu up to the 20th ult., represent the cause of the Greeks to be most prosperous. A corps of Turks which had left Corinth to relieve the garrison of Patras, closely invested by Colocotroni, has been cut off, and both the above fortresses are said to be in possession of the patriots. Other accounts state that Epirus is in full insurrection. It appears that a detachment of the Greek fleet has entered the Bay of Tunis. and taken out some vessels from Of the under the batteries. 15,000 acting in Acarnania, uncles Omer-Vrioni, not a man has cocaped the pursuit of Botsaris. whose brave followers are carrying all before them.

# MAY.

# GREAT BRITAIN.

5.—His Royal Highness the Duke of York was present at the ceremony of laying the first stone in a building, about to be erected at Clapton, as a dwelling for the objects of the London Orphan Society. After the performance the ceremony, a number of persons who joined in the proceeded to procession. City of London Tavern, to partake of the anniversary dinner provided on the occasion. Lord Mayor took the chair shortly after six o'clock, with his Royal Highness the Prince of Saxe-Coburg on his right, and the Right Hon. the Lord Bishop of London on his left.

After the usual loyal and patriotic toasts, the health of his Royal Highness the Prince of Saxe-Coburg, and the remainder of the Royal Family was proposed by the Lord Mayor, and drank enthusiastically.

His Royal Highness then rose, and in returning thanks for the honour conferred on him, said he could not but feel warmly on finding his name connected with the hopes and welfare of such an institution. He added, that the absence of his Royal Highness the Duke of York was owing to an injunction of his physicians, that he would not appear at public dinners, as the heat of large and crowded assemblies must be injurious to his health.

A procession of the orphans, male and female, then took place, after which a collection of more than one thousand pounds was made for their support, and the completion of the asylum already

mentioned.—A donation of fifty guineas was sent by his Royal Highness the Duke of York.

An unfortunate accident took place at Clapton by the falling of the machinery constructed for the purpose of facilitating the lowering of the stone. One of the workmen employed was completely crushed to death. chair, appointed for the Royal Duke, was also broken, and had not his Royal Highness stepped aside on the first concussion of the scaffolding, he would have been exposed to serious injury. Royal Highness sustained harm from the attention which his benevolent feelings have prompted him to give to the improvement of this institution.

From a parliamentary return respecting bankrupts, it appears that, on an average of the three years, the debts of English bankrupts amounted to the amazing sum of 3,456,382l. a-year. The dividends fell short of 4,500l. little more than half-a-crown the hundred pounds. The dead loss is more than fifteen per cent. upon the income from trade of every sort, which was assessed for the property-tax.

A few days ago, at the interment of Mrs. Moore, of Rostherne, who died at the age of ninety-nine, the friends of the deceased were, according to her directions, regaled with bottled ale, thirty-five years old, which had been kept for the occasion.

The length of streets already lighted with gas in the metropolis is 215 miles! and the three principal companies light 39,504 public lamps, and consume annually about 33,158 chaldrons of coals.

12.—A husband conveyed his

wife into the market-place, at Halifax, for sale; and though the sum of 5s. has hitherto been the average price of a wife thus exposed, yet so highly did the husband recommend his rib to the multitude, that she was ultimately disposed of for a sovereign. What the constables and magistrates of that place were about, whilst this sale was going forward, we know not; but certainly it was an outrage on common decency worthy of special notice.

12.—Wanstead-house was sold by auction, on the premises, for 10,000/.: one of the conditions of sale binds the purchaser to clear every thing away, even to the foundation, by Lady Day, 1825; the biddings commenced at 1000l., and advanced by thousands till they reached 8000l., when they dwindled to an advance of 100% each bidding, till they reached the sum at which the building was sold: the purchasers are Messrs. Stannard and Athow. of Norwich, in conjunction with three other of their townsmen. The auctioneer announced to the company, by their request, that they intended to sell the whole in lots, large or small, to suit buyers, and they absolutely sold a pair of marble chimney pieces for 300 guineas, before they left the room. Thus is sacrificed, on the shrine of extravagance and gambling, a mansion, which cost in its erection more than 860,000*l.*, and which has no equal in the county of Essex!

15.—A public meeting was held at the Crown and Anchor Tavern for the purpose of entering into a subscription to assist the Greeks in their present efforts to establish their independence.

23.—The Arundel and Portsmouth canal was opened: this interesting spectacle attracted a great concourse of spectators to view it. The procession was preceded by the Barl of Egremont, in his barge, followed by the mayor and corporation of Arundel, in their barge: a number of other boats with parties followed, and laden barges and lighters. some with goods from London. others with coals, &c.; the procession moved through the locks at Ford, near Arundel, to Chichester. This canal, from its commencement, has been three years in forming, and has cost about 160,000l.

28.—Discovered in a waterbutt, in the house of Mr. James Robertson, No. 2, Old Northstreet, Red Lion-square, a large snake three feet in length, of the common kind, which was seen swimming in the water with its head partly out: on its being touched, it made a disagreeable hissing noise until it was killed. What makes this occurrence very extraordinary is, the manner in which the snake found its war into the water-butt, which cannot be accounted for, unless it cause through the pipe that conveys the water from the New-river, in which case it must have come a distance of nearly two miles out of its own natural element. In other respects the water-butt is so situated (being surrounded on all sides by a wall nearly ten feet high,) that all idea of the snake gaining access from any other quarter is precluded.

SPAIN.

Vigo, May 5.—On the 1st instant arrived his Britannic Majesty's packet packet Stanmer, bringing Robert Wilson, Col. Light, Capt. Brskine, two French and two German officers, all for the purpose of joining the Spaniards They were against the French. received with a discharge of artillery from the ships and batteries; at night they were serenaded, and the town illuminated. On the following day they attended (by request) at the convent of Francisco, and heard mass for the souls that were massacred at Cadiz, after which the whole of the troops were, ordered out for the inspection of Sir Robert Wil-On the 4th (Sunday) the English officers (the French and Germans having gone on to Corunna) were regularly admitted as Spanish soldiers; and after a speech from Sir Robert, in Spanish, at the head of the troops, they fell into the ranks, with musquet

1828.

and bayonet. Sir Robert was in the Spanish uniform, with all his orders: 300 troops marched off immediately for actual service. A dinner was afterwards given in compliment to the English, and Sir Robert was seated, with the Political Chief on his right, and the Governor General on his left under a canopy, composed of English, Spanish, and Portuguese colours. appropriate toasts were drank, with discharges of artillery &c., and after dinner, the company, attendtheir band. ed with marched through the streets, screnading the houses of the principal inhabitants.

A severe engagement took place between the Spaniards and the French, in which the latter had the advantage. The Duc d'Angouleme has reached Madrid.

## HOLLAND.

14.—Amsterdam.—The Society Arti salutiferæ met to-day to celebrate the anniversary of the discovery of Vaccine by the im-Van der mortal Jenner. Mr. Breggen, President of the Society, made an animated address, in which he did merited justice the illustrious deceased. whose bust, covered with a veil, stood before him. In the middle of his discourse he took off the veil and placed on the bust the civic crown.

#### GREECE.

The Regency of Greece has ceased, and the Government is in the hands of a Congress of Deputies. After the solemn installation at Napoli di Romania, Mavrocordato was elected President of the Congress, to the great joy of the people. The Congress has confided to Colocotroni the defence of the Morea; and has appointed Odysseus to the chief command in Thessaly, and Bozzaris to the same situation in Epi-The state of rus and Acarnania. affairs in the Peloponnessus is favourable to the insurgents.

#### JUNE.

#### GREAT BRITAIN.

Charities.—At the late anniversaries of the principal Public Charities in London, the following statements of the receipts during the last year were presented:—

Society for Promoting
Christian Knowledge 53,729 9 3
Society for Propagating
the Gospel in Foreign
Parts - - - - 19,513 11 0
British and Foreign
Bible Society - - 103,802 17 1

British

British and Foreign			
School Society (about)	1,600	0	
Church Missionary So-			
ciety	32,975	9	
Wesleyan ditto	26,883	5	
London ditto	29,437	13	
Moravian ditto	7,192	18	
Naval and Military Bible			
Society	2,040	4	
Society for the Conver-			
sion of the Jews -	10,689	13	
Hibernian Society	5,372		
Religious Tract Society	9,261	3	
Church of England Tract	•		
Society	514	11	1
Society for the Relief of			
Poor Pious Clergymen	2,219	0	
Continental Society -	1,074	12	
London Female Peniten-			
tiary	4,075	19	
African Institution	1,124	0	-
Sunday School Society	•		
for Ireland	3,193	6	1
Hibernian Bible Society	5,679	11	1
Prayer Book and Homily	•		
Society	2,056	15	- (
Irish Religious Book and	•		
Tract Society	3,943	0	(
Sunday School Union	-		
Society	1,762	4	ä
	,		

These, it will be seen, refer only to education. The number of charities for relief of the bodily infirmities and temporal necessities of the poor and destitute in London and its neighbourhood, are almost countless, and the aggregate sum subscribed for their support is beyond belief.

One of the most extraordinary and revolting instances of the want of tenderness in a father towards his children, we have ever heard off, was seen in Kennington a few It was reported that a days ago. man in a respectable rank in life, who had lost his wife about twelve months ago, adopted the resolution of ascertaining what progress the human mind would make towards perfection without the assistance of any of the ordinary modes of improvement, and was actually making the experiment

upon his own children, by leaving them to themselves in a small house in Kennington, naked, and hungry, and covered with filth. The eyes of the neighbours were fixed upon the house for some time, and they perceived that the visits of the father were very unfrequent, and that no other person ever approached the door. unfortunate prisoners, very unlike other children, never were heard to quarrel or to give utterance to any complaint, notwithstanding the privations to which the neighbours knew they must have been subject from the neglect of their Information unnatural parent. was given to Mr. Pace, the acting overseer of Lambeth parish, that four poor children were thus scandalously neglected; the family that lived next door to the house in which the children were confined having received the fullest confirmation of their suspicions upon throwing a piece of bread into the yard. No sooner had the bread fallen, than the miserable children ran out of the house, pounced upon and devoured it in an instant, and then ran in. without saying a word in answer to the inquiries of those who were shocked at so deplorable a spectacle. Mr. Pace, upon hearing those particulars, went to the house; but he knocked in vain; for the inmates were too much afraid of their tyrant to give admission to a The officer then climbed over the yard wall, and went into the house, where he beheld a most dreadful scene of wretchedness. There were four children, the eldest of whom was not more than five years old, huddled together on an old mattress. The only covering they had was a piece of an old hlanket

blanket, which literally Was crowded with vermin; and the room in which they lay was scarcely approachable, on account of the stench proceeding from the unavoidable accumulation of filth. Mr. Pace asked them those questions which were naturally suggested by what he saw; and was told by the eldest that their father sometimes stayed away four or five days successively, and left them without a morsel of food-that they never answered the door or the voice of the neighbours, in obedience to his commands, he having told them that he would knock their brains out if they spoke to any body. The wretched children were then washed and clothed, and taken to Lambeth workhouse, where they are to remain until the parish officers of Newington, to which parish they belong, take measures to compel their father to maintain them, not by taking them under his own care, but by paying a weekly sum to keep them out of the power of so cruel a protector. These almost incredible facts were stated to one of the Magistrates at Union-hall. They excited the astonishment which our readers must feel on perusing this account. Magistrate advised that the children should be removed to their own parish as soon as possible, and that the officers should then take the necessary steps against the brutal father, who has not called at the house since Mr. Pace took them out of their misery. (The name of the father is Gardiner.)

2.—About seven o'clock, an immense quantity of mackerel were hauled on shore at Deal, having been caught in a seine net, to the number of about 7000—a 1823.

circumstance unprecedented in the annals of fishery: the whole of which were purchased in the course of an hour after, to the great satisfaction of the fisherman, at the rate of 17s. per 100.

Extraordinary Phenomenon. - An account, in some respects inaccurate, has appeared in many of the papers: the following is the exact truth: -Eight months ago, a youth about twelve years of age, named Oldham, in Christ's Hospital, went to bed at the usual hour, and in the morning rose totally dumb: he preserved every other faculty, but was obliged to write on a slate for every thing he wanted, that he could not explain by signs. Every means of internal remedy, and also electricity, were resorted to without effect: galvanism was also attempted, but was so much resisted in its application by the boy's fears, that it could not then be applied. His general health was invariably good. At length, by strong recommendation, his fears of galvanism were overcome. and it was applied five different days: on Friday last, being the evening of the fifth application. and exactly eight months to a day. he retired to bed as usual, and awoke suddenly about eleven o'clock, making so much noise as to awaken some of his schoolfellows. Their astonishment induced so much alarm, that the nurse opened the door of her adjoining apartment to learn the cause, when many voices exclaimed, "O nurse, Oldham can speak again!" The nurse, doubting the fact, immediately went to him, and discovered the reality of this extraordinary phenomenon. the morning the boy had quite recovered his speech; and on being (C)asked asked if he felt any peculiar sensation, merely said, he thought he was being galvanised, as he felt the tip of his tongue affected, together with a rumbling in his inside. On inquiry, we learn that his speech has continued perfect ever since.

18.—The Greeks and Spaniards. -The City of London has voted two subscriptions of 1000l. each, in aid of the Greeks and Spaniards. -A meeting of noblemen and gentlemen took place at the London Tavern, Bishopsgate-street, to promote a subscription in aid of the cause of the Spanish constitutionalists. Many eloquent speeches were delivered; and before the close of the meeting, subscriptions to the extent of 5000l. were announced.

The Directors of the Bank of England, with the view of extending the employment of their capital, have adopted the resolution of making advances of money on the security of Bank stock, at the rate of 4 per cent. interest.

17.—An attempt was made on the life of Hyam Isaacs, of Exeter, who has forsaken the Jewish faith, and embraced the Christian religion. A person came unawares upon him, as he was walking in the street, and inflicted a stab on the chest with a knife or other sharp instrument: fortunately the wound is not mortal, which it must have been had the weapon penetrated deeper. The assassin made his escape, but it is hoped he will be discovered and brought to justice.

New Church, Greenwich.—The ceremony of laying the first stone of St. Mary's Church took place, by the hands of Her Royal Highness the Princess Sophia Matilda. The procession, which consisted of

the children of the various charityschools of Greenwich, the parish officers, the trustees, the clergy (in their robes), the Lord Bishop of Oxford, the Princess Sophia, supported by Lord Bexley and Sir Richard Keats, arrived on the ground at three o'clock, and the ceremony immediately commenced by raising the stone. A prayer was read, after which a psalm was sung by the charity children; the Bishop read an exhortation, and the Princess deposited the glass with the different coins in a space cut out of the stone, and placed a silver plate bearing the inscription; she then made use of a silver trowel, and spread the cement, the stone was lowered, and her Royal Highness gave it three knocks with The workmen detached a mallet. the iron and crosses by which it was hung, and then jumped on the top of it and gave three times three cheers, which were echoed through the vast assemblage. The military band played "God save the King," which the charity children joined in, and afterwards Hallelujah was sung, and the ceremony concluded.

22.—A placard, announcing that Mary Brown, of Nottingham. would preach on Sunday at the chapel in Grubb-street, was last week posted in different parts of the city. The novelty attracted vast crowds to the spot; and although the chapel is a spacious one, capable of accommodating upwards of 2000 people, long before the time fixed for the commencement of the service it was completely crowded; even the window-sills and avenues leading to it were filled, nor was the clerk allowed the accustomed exclusive possession of his pew. The fe-Male

male preacher had on a nankeen dress, and wore a cap on her head. She took for her text a passage in the Psalms, as follows:—"Rivers of waters flow from mine eyes, because they keep not thy law;" on which she expatiated for upwards of an hour.

#### SPAIN.

The King is removed to Cadiz. The French have been gradually advancing, and the constitutionalists losing ground.

## PORTUGAL.

A counter-revolution has been effected, and the constitutional government abolished.

## GERMANY.

Stutgard, June, 14.—In compliance with the decree of the Diet of the German Confederation, the remaining copies of the German Observer have been sealed up; and that journal, in its last number, published yesterday, which contained nothing but that notice, took leave of its readers, and thanked them for their confidence.

## SOUTH AMERICA.

Lord Cochrane had arrived early in March, in pursuance of his arrangement with that Government, to take the command of the Brazilian squadron. A squadron was prepared for sea immediately on his Lordship's arrival, and on the 1st of April he sailed for Bahia at its head.

## JULY.

## GREAT BRITAIN.

The intense power of lightning was evinced on an oak, situated near Windmill Hall, on Tiptree

Heath, Messing, Essex, in a most singular manner. The tree was two feet in diameter, and nearly sixty feet in height. Every branch was torn from the trunk, and that also was riven into splinters, not of any bulk, but about two feet in length, and as many inches in dia-The bark was entirely stripped from the tree, as if by a barker's instrument, and scattered in a circle of between 30 and 40 vards, of which the tree formed the centre. A portion of the tree remains standing, as a memorial and evidence of the destruction, and of the immensity of the destroying power.

Clever and industrious Mice.— The mouse, after all, is not the most ridiculous animal to which a mountain might condescend to give birth. A gentlemen at Kirk-caldy has two, which can earn 5d. per diem, by spinning cotton; and he is training others to the

same service.

The Glasgow frigate (on board of which the late Governor General of India came to Europe) has brought to England, as presents from the Nabob of Oude to his Majesty, several articles of considerable value, being estimated at upwards of 200,000/. them are a sword set in diamonds, a belt, and sword-knot; the latter composed of diamonds and other precious jewels of the most costly description, and suspended to it is an emerald of great value, it being considered the largest extant, and nearly the size of an egg. whole are landed, and will be presented by Captain Doyle to the A bird of Paradise alive King. has also been brought to England in this ship; which we believe to be the only attempt of this kind

c 2 eyex

ever made with success. A bull and cow, of a small white breed, which the Hindoos worship, have also arrived as a present to the Princesses.

As his Majesty was passing through Egham in his low phaeton, dressed in a light-drab great coat, in company with Lord Francis Conyngham, not one person in twenty recognized him. In going up the middle hill which leads to the cottage, at a walking pace, a remarkably stout man, named Benjamin Hoades, a farmer, who had just come out of the hay-field, was standing against his gate, without his coat and waistcoat, and who attracted his Majesty's attention, and caused him to smile. The farmer seeing his Majesty smile at him, good-naturedly said, not knowing it was the King, "How do you do, old chap?" The King immediately increased his laugh, when the old farmer replied, "You seem, old chap, to make yourself very merry at my expense!" Honest Ben, on inquiring of a neighbour " who that ere gentleman was?" felt much surprised upon being told it was the King! "Be that as it may," said Ben, " he seems to be a jolly goodnatured fellow for all that!

2.—The ceremony of laying the first stone of the new buildings at Corpus Christi College took place.

8.—Last week, a poor woman, with an infant at her breast, employed in the grounds of Mr. Bailey, of Swanscombe, Kent, in podding peas, previous to the commencement of her daily labours suckled the child, and left it in a hedge near the place where she was at work; on her return some time after to look for her

child, she was struck with horror at finding it dead. Mr. Chivers, of Greenhithe, having obtained the wretched mother's consent to open the child, he found, to his utter astonishment, a snake in its stomach! It is supposed, that soon after the mother had suckled the infant, the snake, attracted by the milk remaining on the child's lips, had entered the mouth and suffocated it.

12.—At ten o'clock, the Lords of his Majesty's most honourable Privy Council assembled in the Court of the Duchy of Lancaster (in the Tally Court of the Exchequer, adjoining Westminster - hall), to make trial of his Majesty's coins in the pix of the Mint. were present the Lord Chancellor, Lord Stowell, Lord Bexley, the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Mr. Becket, &c. Their object in thus meeting was to ascertain the correctness of the issue of the British coinage, and its purity, for which purpose a jury was summoned, being members of the Goldsmiths' company, and the best judges of gold the country can produce. Their names were Miles Poole Penfold, foreman; William Thornburgh Brown, Thomas Brind, Robert Makepeace, Thomas Ayres, Albion Cox (Alderman), John Harker, Edmund Waller Rundell, Stephen Nicholson Barber, Samuel Haynes, Philip Gilbert, and John Barrow, Esquires.

The Lord Chancellor, in addressing the jury, noticed the alterations in the currency of this country, from the time of the Bank of England ceasing to pay in cash, and the issuing of the paper currency, which was obliged to be continued from the long protract-

ed and unprecedented war in which Great Britain had been engaged. The return to cash payments having been gradual, was so extremely well arranged, as to produce no very material inconvenience: whereas, if it had been sudden and general, it would have been of the most serious consequences to numbers, and possibly to some ruinous.

Specimens of gold and silver coinage were submitted to the jury's inspection; two samples at least from each were tried, in the presence of the jury, in furnaces erected for the purpose at the bottom of the Exchequer.

No alteration has been made in the standard of our gold coinage since the reign of King William III., and it is taken with the greatest confidence all over the world; in consequence, the greatest care and attention is observed to keep it strictly so. It consists of eleven ounces to the pound of pure gold, and the alloy is made up of silver and copper, as it would not work without. Specimens of each coinage are kept in a small chapel in Westminsterabbey, as well as in the Mint, in what is called the Pix Chest, under several locks and keys.

The trial of the gold and silver of the new coinage, with the specimens of the former coinage, occupied the attention of the jury nearly the whole of the day. business having commenced at an early hour, they breakfasted together at the King's Arms Tavern, New Palace-yard. At the conclusion the Lords of the Council were entertained with a turtlefeast at Goldsmiths'-hall.

Total value of the gold monies coined by Lord Maryborough,

from January 1 to December 31, 1822, is 5,856,787l. 12s. 6d.

Total value of the new silver monies coined by Lord Maryborough, from January 1 to December 31, 1822, is 31,430*l. 7s.* 1 <del>]</del> d.

21.—Curiosity drew together a crowd of people at Dundee, to witness the funeral of a child, which was consigned to the grave in a novel manner. The father. in terror of the resurrection-men. had caused a small box, enclosing some deathful apparatus communicating by means of wires with the four corners, to be fastened on the top of the coffin. Immediately before it was lowered into the earth, a large quantity of gunpowder was poured into the box. and the hidden machinery put into a state of readiness for execution. The common opinion was that if any one attempted to raise the body, he would be blown up. The sexton seemed to dread an immediate explosion; for he started back in alarm after throwing in the first shovelful of earth. - Scotch paper.

# SPAIN.

The constitutionalists have had partial successes, but the war is now nearly centred in Cadiz. The Cortes have dissolved the Regency, and restored the king to his executive power. Sir R. Wilson has been wounded in a sortie from Corunna.

## GERMANY.

Austrian Censorship.—The Conversation, Blatt, a monthly publication at Leipsic, gives an account of the operations of the Austrian censorship during the month of October last. This censorship has different degrees of judgment.

judgment, of approval, and of condemnation, very much like those of the late inquisition at Madrid. There are the transcat, the admittitur, the correctis corrigendis, and the omissis delendis. The admittitur conveys the highest approbation of the censors; the transeat expresses a slight disapprobation. The works to which this qualified censure was principally applied in October, were works of German theology.

## CHINA.

Dangers attending Authorship in China, illustrated by the fate of Whang-sec-Heou, whose Crime is thus set forth in the Report of his Judges.

"We find," say they--" 1. that he has presumed to meddle with the great Dictionary of of Kang-hi; having made an abridgment of it, in which he has had the audacity to contradict some passages of that excellent and authentic work. 2. In the preface to his abridgment, we have seen with horror, that he has dared to write the little names (that is, the primitive family names) of Confucius, and even of your Majesty—a temerity, a want of respect, which has made us shudder. 3. In the genealogy of his family and his poetry, he has asserted that he is descended from the Whang-tee.

" When asked why he had dared to meddle with the great Dictionary of Kang-hi, he replied-That Dictionary is very voluminous and inconvenient; I have made an abridgment, which is less cumber-

some and expensive.

"Being questioned how he could have the audacity to write in the preface to this Dictionary,

the little names of the Emperors of the reigning dynasty, he answered-I know that it is unlawful to pronounce the little names of the Emperors. I introduced them into my Dictionary merely that young people might know what those names were, and not be liable to use them by mistake, have, however, acknowledged my error, by reprinting my Dictionary, and omitting what was amiss.

"We replied, that the little names of the Emperor and of Confucius were known to the whole empire. He protested that he had long been ignorant of them; and that he had not known them himself till he was thirty years old, when he saw them for the first time in the hall where the literati compose their pieces in order to obtain degrees.

"When asked how he had dared to assert that he was descended from the Whang-tee, he said:-It was a vanity that came into my head. I wanted to make people believe that I was somebody."

The Judges of Whang-see-heou attached less importance to this charge than to the other two. They declared the author guilty of high treason on the first charge, and pronounced this sentence:

"According to the laws of the empire, this crime ought to be rigorously punished. The criminal shall be cut in pieces, his goods confiscated, and his children and relatives above the age of sixteen years put to death. His wives, his concubines, and his children under sixteen shall be exiled, and given as slaves to some grandee of the empire."

The sovereign was graciously pleased to mitigate the severity of

the sentence, in an edict to this effect .-- I favour Whang-see-heou in regard to the nature of his punishment. He shall not be cut in pieces, and shall only have his head cut off. I forgive his rela-As to his sons, let them be reserved for the great execu-Let the sentence tion in autumn. be executed in its other points: such is my pleasure."

# AUGUST.

## GREAT BRITAIN.

A singular Example of Labour and Liberality.—In addition to the handsome and very valuable present of communion-plate, made by the Rev. Wm. Davy, curate of Lustleigh, in Devonshire, we have also to state, that he has finished, and is now distributing for public review, a volume of "Discourses on the Being of God—the Divinity of Christ—the Personality of the Holy Ghost—and on the sacred Trinity;" being improved extracts from his "System of Divinity" (in 26 vols. 8vo.) some time since printed by himself, pro bono publico, fourteen copies only, the chief of which were placed, by their proper directors, in public repositories of useful learning; in the cathedral of this diocese, the two Universities, &c. Since writing the above, we have seen the volume now completed, and which contains upwards of 500 pages; it was also printed by the venerable clergyman, assisted occasionally by his woman servant in setting the types, as well as in taking off the impressions. It is worthy of remark, that the press itself was made by the Rev. gentlemen, not after any existing model, but on a plan of his own. Only fourteen

copies were printed, which were all made presents of. Mr. Davy has also just given several pounds to revive the singing in his church, which has for many years been discontinued; and has most generously offered a field of land, exceeding 800/. in value, to establish a school for the education of the poor children of his parish. Plymouth Telegraph.

Irish Character.—An incident occurred on Eden-quay, which is worthy of remark, as being highly terprise of the Irish.

characteristic of the careless en-Two countrymen met accidentally, when the following dialogue ensued:-"Why then, Pat, is that you?-Sure enough it is, Jack: how is every inch of you?-Faith, myself is elegant, only the times is so bad; arrah, then, how is your mother's son? -Oh! the devil a use in complaining: I've nothing to do, and that's the reason I'm going over to Liverpool. Ah! what suppose you come-have you any money? --(Putting his hand in the pocket of what appeared to have been originally a pair of breeches), Why, I've four tenpennies; but what would I do for sea-store? --Oh! come along, man; I'll engage we'll make it out.-By my soul, then here goes!" And off Paddy and Jack set on the instant for Liverpool.

Mexico.-Mr. Lionel Harvey. late Secretary of Legation at Madrid, is going out immediately at the head of a commission to Mexico, with powers which cannot fail, from their extent and importance, to put the British Government in possession of the actual state of that fertile country. There is no doubt, we believe, of this inquiry and negotiation leading to an inti-

mate

mate connexion between Mexico and this country—a subject on which the former has expressed herself in the most pressing terms of solicitude.

Privilege of the Clergy in Ireland. –In an ejectment case, tried at the late assizes of Wexford, the Rev. Mr. Morgan, a clergyman of the established church, being examined as a witness, declined to answer a question put to him, on the ground that his answer would disclose matters communicated to him by a person whom he attended at the time of his death in the exercise of his spiritual profession. The Catholic clergy always object to disclose what occurs on such occasions, on the ground that the secrecy of confession imposes an insurmountable obligation; but the objection is new, we believe, on the part of a Protestant clergyman. The point was argued at some length by Mr. Hamilton for enforcing an answer; and by Mr. O'Connell for respecting the conscientious scruple of the witness Mr. Justice Jebb, who presided, said he would step into the County Court, where the Chief Justice was then sitting, and consult him. When he returned, he stated to the witness that it was the opinion of the Court, that he was under no such obligation of secrecy as should prevent his answering the question. The Reverend Gentleman expressed his regret that he must still decline to answer. He then stated that he had consulted his spiritual superior, we believe the Bishop of the Diocess, who approved of his determination to maintain an inviolable secrecy. The Court declined taking any measure with a view to enforce an

answer; and as this was the principal witness on whom the plaintiff's case depended, a verdict was given for the defendant.—Dublin Evening Post.

Several cures, apparently miraculous, are stated to have been made by the efficacy of the prayers of the Catholic Prince Hohenlohe. His method is to fix a certain future day, upon which he promises to pray for the sufferers, and requests them to join with their most fervent prayers; he insists upon faith in them as absolutely necessary to make his prayer effectual. By this means, apparently, several cures have been effected, and affidavits made of them.

4.—Seventeen persons were forced off the quay at Billingsgate attempting to procure oysters, and several drowned.

The ceremony of laying the first stone of the new buildings of Trinity College was performed.

17.—Proportion of Methodists.
—The Eightieth Annual Conference of the Wesleyan Methodists, held in Sheffield since Wednesday se'nnight, closed on Monday. We are informed that the numbers of this body are as follow:—In England and Scot-

past year . . . 8,006
Ditto in foreign stations . . . . 1,653
-----9.659

It is said that the number of Wesleyan Methodists in the United States is computed at little short of 300,000.

SPAIN.

Ferrol has surrendered to the French; by desertion and by by other reverses, the constitutionalists are still losing ground. Ballasteros has resigned his commission, after being defeated by Molitor, near St. Jean.

#### GERMANY.

The celebrated Carnot died on the 14th, at Magdeburgh.

The Landgravine of Hesse-Rumpenheim, mother of the Duchess of Cambridge, died on the 17th instant, at Rumpenheim.

Somnolency...- A singular affection has been observed in a mendicant, aged 79, in the infirmary of Mentz. This man slept without waking eighty days. When they sought to awaken him by violent shaking, he sometimes uttered an inarticulate sound, and would swallow two or spoonsful of wine and broth, and then relapse into his usual state. All stimulants were applied in vain, and on the eightieth day he expired.

## ITALY.

A letter has been received from Rome, dated the 16th, stating that the church of St. Paul extra muros had become a prey to the flames. This church, which is one of the largest, the richest, and most ancient in the capital of the Catholic world, was remarkable for the elegance of its interior structure, and the five colonnades of Greek and African marble that supported its naves. Twentyfour of these pillars, of African marble, were taken from the tomb of Hadrian, in what is now called the Castle of St. Angelo. They were, when the accounts of the 16th left Rome, buried under the ruins.

#### GREEKS.

Leghorn, July 15.—Lord Byron arrived here on the 22d, and sailed the next day for Zante, on board the English brig Hercules, Captain Scott. He will go immediately to the Peloponnesus: he has several Greeks with him, and some English officers, as well as ammunition, and 70,000 piasters for the Greeks.

#### AMERICA.

By a statement in the Quebec Gazette of July 1, it appears that a considerable diminution of the trade of that port, as compared with the same periods of last year, has taken place; the deficiency is 91 vessels, forming an aggregate The number of of 30,585 tons. vessels arrived this year up to that date is 191, carrying 46,407 tons, and bringing 4374 emigrants. The number arrived at the same period last year was 282, carrying 77,092 tons, and bringing 4302 settlers.

## INDIA.

Letters were received from Singapore, dated the 24th of January, which announced the return of Mr. Crawford to that place, from his mission to Siam and Cochin - China. At Siam his reception was not so favourable as had been anticipated. Of the result of the mission to Cochin-China, nothing was known, except that he had been better received there than at Siam.

## SEPTEMBER.

## GREAT BRITAIN.

The highlands of Perthshire have lately been overrun by rats. The lowlands used to be the favourite

favourite residence of this enterprising species of vermin; but within the last two or three years they pushed their settlements in the district of Strathsay, Appin of Dull, Fortingall, and Breadalbane, most amazingly. During the present season, they have been known to devour whole litters of pigs and broods of poultry; and mothers begin to apprehend danger from them to their helpless infants.— Dundee Advertiser.

The destruction of fruit this year by the wasps has been unusually great; and so numerous and rapacious are these insects, that the bees every where find them a formidable, and, in too many instances, an overpowering Honey has, in conseenemy. quence of this, been already brought to market, it being found advisable to take the supplies prematurely, the wasps having generally ejected the legitimate tenants of the hives, and devoured the sweets of their labours.— Taunton Courier.

We present our readers with an authentic copy of a letter, written by our countryman Sir Robert Wilson to the Portuguese Government, renouncing the title, and returning the insignia of the Knight Commander of the Tower and Sword.

"British schooner Nassau, off Belem Castle, Aug. 12.

"Sir—It is with pain that I take a step which may in some degree appear to be personally offensive to his Majesty the King of Portugal, when I have no such intention, being too well aware of his Majesty's present situation; but after the ungenerous, vindictive, as well as lawless treatment I have experienced, under circum-

stances that would have secured me protection and hospitality from the governments of even the most barbarous nations, it is impossible for me to wear the insignia of a country whose Government has so outrageously violated these duties.

"The very possession of these insignia implies obligations on my part which it is not for my honour should any longer exist, and therefore I have to request that you will take proper measures to have my name erased from the Commanders' roll of the Portuguese Order of the Tower and Sword.

"Having formerly refused all pay and pecuniary remuneration from the Government of Portugal during the time I was employed in its service, I have the satisfaction now to feel that I am released from every sort of acknowledgment, and that the service which I rendered Portugal in an extreme moment of her peril, and crisis of her fate — services which cannot be denied—have thus been gratuit-ously given.

"I have the honour to be,
"Your Excellency's most obediess'
humble Servant, R. W.

humble Servant, R. "To his Excellency the

Count Palmella, Minister for Foreign Affairs."

Irish Knighthood.—The Judges have decided that the Lord Lieutenant does possess, since the Union, the power of conferring the honour of knighthood, as he did while Ireland was a separate kingdom.

The last Gazette did not declare a single Bankruptcy either in London or in the country. No such circumstance has occurred within our memory; and when the prodigious multiplication of traders of all descriptions, and the coually equally wonderful increase of trade, in value and extent, which has taken place within a few years, is considered, the occurrence must be regarded as one of the miracles of good laws, good policy, and active industry, operating under the blessing of the Divine Providence.

The largest and finest log of mahogany ever imported into this country has been recently sold by auction at the docks in Liverpool.. It was purchased by James Hodgson, Esq. for 3781. and afterwards sold by him for 525l. and if it open well, is supposed to be worth 1000l. It is seventeen feet in length, five feet in width, and fourteen thick, and contains more than 8000 superficial feet. If sawn into veneers, it is computed that the cost of labour in the process will be 750l. The weight at the King's beam was six tons thirteen cwt.—Macclesfield Courier.

Extraordinary Occurrence.—The following singular circumstance has happened to a young woman in Maryport, which, it is supposed, originated in having drunk unwholesome water in the hay-field, about six weeks since. Soon after she was seized with a pain in her stomach, attended with a sensation as if something was creeping within it; but having eaten some salted provision, it probably became an antidote; for on Sunday last she threw up a large dead worm, apparently of the snake species, upwards of half a yard long, and thick in proportion, spotted, or rather striped all over. Having discharged the animal, she was immediately relieved from pain, and is now perfectly restored to health.—Carliele Journal.

Curious Application. — Mr. Mason, a livery-stable keeper of

Piccadilly, stated that he had a gateway entrance to his premises, which had lately been the scene of such nuisances as were unbearable; he therefore wished for a licence or permission to erect a shower-bath, of a construction which he had in his eye, and which, when put into operation, would take a sweep of the whole entrance, so as not one, who went there to commit an offence, could escape a ducking. — Mr. Conant said, this was a curious application and one which he feared he could not grant, because the probability was, that this shower-bath would be the cause of producing what it was his (Mr. Conant's) duty to prevent -namely, a breach of the peace, and very likely also a breach of Mr. Mason's windows. — Mr. Mason said, any attack upon himself he would completely obviate. intention was to have a handle like a bell-pull to the showerbath, which he could use in his sitting-room, while he witnessed in safety the effect of it upon the intruders; and, as to breaking his windows, they could not be got at without going a long distance down the entrance, and that he should guard against by placing a ferocious dog in the centre of the way. so that no one could pass without the danger of being devoured.— Mr. Conant said, that however ingenious his plan might be, it was one which he could not sanction, and if Mr. Mason proceeded with it, he must do so on his own responsibility.--Mr. Mason said he should certainly erect the bath.

5.—The ceremony of opening the new basins in the Dock-yards at Sheerness took place in the presence of an immense assemblage of persons of all ranks. At an early hour of the morning, the

Royal

Royal Artillery and Marines on duty in Sheerness and the neighbouring depots, marched into the new Dock-yards, where they were drawn up in single files, so as to enclose the area in which the new basins are formed: behind the military lines were erected seats and raised platforms, which commanded a close view of the whole ceremony. Sentinels were stationed at the different avenues. and no persons were admitted within the enclosure who were not provided with tickets from the Ordnance establishment; these tickets appear to have been liberally distributed, for nearly 3000 persons were seated upon the platform an hour before the ceremony commenced. The ladies were elegantly dressed, and their gay appearance heightened the coup-d'ail from the barbour.

The Prince Regent, 74, Admiral Hallowell, dropped down to Sheerness, and lay at anchor off the new basins, bearing the Admiral's flak, with her broadside to the shore. The Genoa. the Isis, and the Rifleman were stationed near her. Several gunboats and pleasure-yachts were moored in a semicircular form in front of the dock, and the gay colours of their variegated streamers had a beautiful effect, and gave to the harbour a most picturesque appearance.

Soon after ten o'clock his Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence arrived in the Admiralty yacht from Chatham, where he slept the preceding night. His Royal Highness wore a naval uniform, and was accompanied by several personages of distinction. The main yards of the vessels of war were all manned, a royal salute was

fired, and the accustomed respect paid to the Royal Admiral of the fleet, with all the deafening explosion of nautical salutation. His Royal Highness shortly after went on board the Lord Howe, 130gun ship, which was to lead the van at the opening of the new basins. He took his station on the poop, which was covered with an elegant awning, attended by Lord Melville, Sir George Cockburn, Sir George Clerk, Sir Byam Martin, Sir Joseph Yorke, the Lord Mayor, the Lady Mayoress, Mr. Secretary Croker, and some naval and military officers, as well as the principal officers of the civil ma-Several ladies of distinction were also present. At half-past eleven o'clock all the preliminary arrangements for opening the new basins being completed, at a given signal the Lord Howe, a new 150gun ship, was removed into the basin appropriated for her, amid a loud discharge of cannon from the shipping, and an almost equally resounding repetition of cheers from the multitude who surveyed the opening scene. A number of bands from the different ships simultaneously played "Rule Britannia," as the Lord Howe slowly and majestically moved onwards to her destination within the dock; it was a novel spectacle to see a ship of such a weight of metal floated upon this spot, and closely and safely deposited within a solid embankment. There are at present three docks ready for service; they are fit for the reception of the largest ships in the navy, and can be used, as necessity requires, either as dry or wet docks; for by an obvious improvement in the application of steam-power, the water can be withdrawn in forty minutes,

minutes, and the place can also be adapted for the dry dock uses, by a simple mechanical contrivance by an under tunnel, through which the water can be immediately expelled.

Mr. Alexander Robinson, of Upperby, near this city, is now weaving the armorial bearings of J. R. G. Graham, Esq., of Croft-The yarn of which they head. are composed is of that amazing fineness, that nine hanks can be pressed through a gold ring, whose diameter is 11-16ths of an inch. There are 120 threads in each cut, and 12 cuts to each hank; total number of threads 12,960.— Carlisle Journal.

#### SPAIN.

The fortress of Trocadero has been taken by the French. are still narrowing the field of action. Riego has been taken.

#### GERMANY.

The Emperor of Austria has granted permission to one of the Archdukes of Austria to unite himself in marriage with a young and agreeable woman taken from the lowest class of his subjects.---Constitutional.

#### AMERICA.

Lady Cochrane arrived at Rio de Janeiro on the 13th of June last, to join her husband. wife of the Brazilian Admiral, she was treated with great distinction; a salute from the forts announced her landing, and one of the best houses in the city was prepared for her reception.

# OCTOBER.

## GREAT BRITAIN.

1.--His Majesty made his first formal entrance into Windsor.

The following extraordinary case of Somnambulism has been communicated to us in an authentic manner. It is principally important in a medical point of view, on account of the successful use

of bleeding as a remedy.

A remarkable instance of this affection of the nerves occurred on Sunday evening last, October the 5th, to a lad named George Davis, sixteen and a-half years of age, in the service of Mr. Hewson, butcher, of Bridge-road, Lambeth: at about twenty minutes after nine o'clock the lad bent forward in his chair, and rested his forehead on his hands; and in ten minutes started up, went for his whip, put on his one spur, and went thence to the stable; not finding his own saddle in the proper place, he returned to the house and asked for it. Being asked what he wanted with it, he replied to go his rounds. turned to the stable, got on the horse without the saddle, and was proceeding to leave the stable: it was with much difficulty and force that Mr. Hewson, jun. assisted by the other lad, could remove him from the horse; his strength was great, and it was with difficulty he was brought in doors. Hewson, sen. coming home at this time, sent for Mr. Benjamin Ridge, an eminent practitioner in Bridge-road, who stood by him for a quarter of an hour, during which time the lad considered himself stopped at the turnpike-gate,

and took sixpence out of his pocket to be changed; and holding out his hand for the change, the sixpence was returned to him. He immediately observed, "None of your nonsense—that is the sixpence again, give me my change;" when three pence half-penny was given to him. He counted it over and said, "None of your gammon; that is not right, I want a penny more;" making the four pence half-penny, which was his He then said; proper change. "Give me my castor" (meaning his hat), which slang terms he had been in the habit of using, and then began to whip and spur to get his horse on; his pulse at this time was 136, full and hard: no change of countenance could be observed, nor any spasmodic affection of the muscles, the eyes remaining closed the whole of the time. His coat was taken off his arm, his shirt sleeve stripped up, and Mr. Ridge bled him to thirtytwo ounces: no alteration had taken place in him during the first part of the time the blood was flowing; at about twenty-four ounces the pulse began to decrease: and, when the full quantity named above had been taken, it was at eighty—a slight perspiration on the forehead. During the time of bleeding, Mr. Hewson related the circumstance of a Mr. Harris, optician in Holborn, whose son some years back walked out on the parapet of the house in his sleep. The boy joined the conversation, and observed he lived at the corner of Brownlow-street. After the arm was tied up, he unlaced one boot and said he would go to bed; in three minutes from this time, he awoke, got up, and asked what was the matter (having then been one hour in the trance), not having the slightest recollection of any thing that had passed, and wondered at his arm being tied up, and at the blood, &c. strong opening medicine was then administered, he went to bed, slept well, and the next day appeared perfectly well, excepting debility from the bleeding and operation of the medicine, and had no recollection whatever of what had taken place. None of his family or himself were ever affected in this way before.

A singular occurrence took place close by the stream at Saxthorp, near Holt. A cottage, occupied by an elderly man and his wife. was perceived by the latter, while making a bed in the chamber, to be in motion, and was shortly afterwards found by her husband to be sinking. The parties immediately used their utmost endeavours to remove their furniture; but they had time to take out only a bed and a few chairs, before it was so far in the earth as to render further efforts unavailing. A spring flowed suddenly upon the sinking building, one end of which and a chimney-top only are now visible above the surface of the water, the depth of which is stated to be from twenty to twenty two feet .- Norwich Mercury.

5.—The Order of Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, which formerly held the sovereignty of Malta, published proposals for a loan of 640,000*l*. for the purpose of preparing to take an active part in the liberation of Greece.

24.—A Scotch Barber.—(From the Glasgow Chronicle.) An instance

stance of very sudden death occurred in Calton. While Mr. John Falconer, hairdresser, Kirkstreet, was in the act of shaving a man, he staggered, and just was falling when he was placed on a chair, and expired in five minutes. He will long be remembered by hundreds who were his customers; his shop was the arena of all local discussion: it was, in fact, denominated the Calton coffee-room. and was the resort of all the borough politicians. His father and he have been in the trade for upwards of half a century. His father was the first who reduced the price of shaving to a halfpenny; and when his brethren in the town wished him again to raise it, old Strap replied, "Charge a penny! Jock and me are just considering about lowering it to a far-He would never take more than a halfpenny though it was offered him; and being very skilful at his business, and of a frank jocular turn, he had a large share of public favour, and was enabled even at this low rate to gather money and build houses: About sixteen years ago he died, and his son carried on the business; but he often said others wrought for need, but he did it for pleasure or recreation, and never was so happy as when he was improving the countenances of the lieges. He was generally allowed to be at the top of his profession; and there are some old men whom he and his father have shaved for fifty years, and whose boast it was that they were never touched another: one very old customer regularly came for many a year to his shop every Saturday night from the western extremity of the His shop was furnished

with two dozen of antique chairs, as many pictures, and a musical clock, and for a long time he had a good library of books, but they at length nearly wholly disappeared, and he took up to his house the few that remained as his own share. At two different times, when trade was dull, he gave his tenants a jubilee on the term day, and presented their discharges without receiving a farthing. He has left behind him property worth between 2 and 3,000l.

The Brighton Chain Pier was opened to the public, by a procession consisting of the High Constable, the Commissioners, and other constituted authorities of the town, attended by the magistrates and a number of the nobility and gentry at present residing there.

Leghorn Straw Plait. — The Dublin Society having offered premiums in July last for the best imitation of Leghorn straw plait, twenty-four specimens were exhibited, which had been fabricated by persons living in various and widely-remote parts of Ireland. On an examination of their merits, the premiums were adjudged as follows:—

"To Miss Mary Collins, of Plattin, near Drogheda, a gold medal, value 101. being the first premium for the finest and evenest plait made from avena flavescens, or yellow oat grass, and exhibited under the form of a small fancy hat.

"To Miss Susannah Goimley, of Kiltimon, near Newtown, Mount Kennedy, the silver medal and 5l. being the second premium for plait made of cynosurus cristatus, or crested dog's-tail, and exhibited in the form of a bonnet.

"To Miss Cristiana Campbell, of Londonderry, the silver medal, being the third premium for plait made of agrestis vulgaris, or common bent grass, and exhibited under the form of a very tasteful bonnet."

Munificent Bequest — It is worthy of record in letters of gold, that the Earl of Bridgewater has left by will six thousand pounds per annum for ever, for the employ and improvement of the poor in the parish of Ashridge, Herts.

#### FRANCE.

Paris, Nov. 4.—(From the Oriflamme.) It is with regret we announce, that at length, after much tergiversation, three Ministers have succeeded in causing the dissolution of the Chamber to be pronounced.

The physician Castaing has been tried for the murder of the brothers Auguste and Hypolite Ballet, in order that he might succeed to their property, which they had bequeathed to him to the exclusion of their kindred. The trial of this case occupied the Criminal Court of Paris during eight days, ending on Tuesday.

Castaing has been found guilty on two counts: the subtraction of the testament, and the poisoning of Auguste Ballet by morphine, an alkaline salt, extracted from opium; and has been acquitted of the charge of having poisoned Hypolite. Sentence of death has in consequence been passed upon him, and he has been condemned to make restitution to Madame Martignon of the 100,000 francs, with interest, which he had received from Auguste. The favourable nature of the opinions

expressed by the majority of the: physicians, would have warranted a different result: for, as they. denied the existence of poison and of poisonous appearances in the body after death, they had removed the only positive which could be given, and left nothing to determine the decision of the Jury but presumptive evidence. At nine o'clock at night the Jury retired into the chamber of deliberation, and at half past eleven they returned and delivered the fatal verdict. Five of the twelve Jurors, however, refused to concur in it, though the three Judges of the Court had sanctioned it with their approbation and assent.

#### SPAIN.

Murcia, Oct. 28.—An immense quantity of people repaired yesterday evening, to the cries of "Vive la Religion! Vive la Sainte Inquisition!" to the house of the Canon D. Joseph de Castro, Honorary Inquisitor. Some persons went up into his room, and told him, that, according to the wish of the people, they came to seek the only Inquisitor who was in Murcia, in order that he might take the standard of the faith. They immediately placed him in an arm chair, and carried him on their shoulders to the Hall of the Municipality, where they placed the standard in his hands: Don Antonio Fontes, several Secretaries, and Ministers of the Holy Office, immediately presented themselves, and, traversing the different streets of the town, carried in procession a portrait of the King, and a magnificent banner, on which was inscribed the name of Ferdinand. A proces-verbal

of all which took place, properly certified, was sent by the Municipality to the King, accompanied by a demand that the King would be pleased to re-establish the Holy Office.

7.—British Consuls appointed to South America.

16.—The Bank resolve to lend upon mortgage at 4 per. cent.

Loan of 2,000,000 contracted in London to pay the Austrian debt.

The Hecla and Fury arrived at Whitby on the 16th, and Captain Parry reached London on Saturday.

A destructive fire happened at Liverpool, by which property to the amount of 100,000*l*. was consumed.

A number of poor people deluded by the hope of a good settlement in the Poyais territory, returned from that country in the most deplorable state of wretchedness, and applied for relief at the Manaion-house.

John Thurtell and Joseph Hunt were brought up to Bow-street, charged with the murder of Mr. Weare, who was murdered on the 24th instant, and subsequently found tied in a sack, at the bottom of a pond near Elstree, Hertfordshire. They were sent for examination before the Hertford magistrates.

Thomas Thurtell and J. Probert were taken up, and confined St. Alban's gaol, upon the same charge.

This murder created a strong sensation by its cold-bloodedness and cruelty. The plan was deliberately arranged. The victim was invited to spend a few days in shooting with the murderer, and in an unsuspected moment he was shot through the head.

#### FRANCE.

Paris, Oct. 12.—At twelve o'clock this day, there was sung in the church at Notre Dame a solemn Te Deum, intoken of gratitude for the happy deliverance of his Catholic Majesty the King of Spain, in presence of the King, the Princes and Princesses of the Royal Family and the blood. Salutes of artillery were fired at the departure of the King from Notre Dame, and on his arrival at the Tuileries. At night the public edifices and private houses were illuminated.

Extract of a letter from Xeres, dated Oct. 2. "The Duke of Angouleme and the Prince of Carignan accompanied the King to the Te Deum of thanksgiving sung at Port St. Mary.

"At one o'clock the Marquis de Talaru was presented to the King, and at four o'clock the King set out from Port St. Mary, accompanied by the whole population of the town and country, who followed him as far as Alceza, where he arrived at six o'clock. The King will pass the night here. It is impossible to describe the delight of the inhabitants of Xeres."

About 800 of the labouring classes of Paris have paraded the streets bearing in triumph the bust of the Duke d'Angouleme, crowned with a garland of laurels, and surmounted with flags fleur-de-lisés. On reaching the Place Vendome, they placed a crown d'immortelles on the head of the statue of Louis XIV. The procession made the air resound with acclamations of "Long live the King! Long live the Bourbons! Long live the Duked'Angouleme!"

(D) which

1823.

which were unanimously repeated

by all the spectators.

The bust of his Royal Highness was also carried to the triumphal arch of *l'Etoile*, where it was placed amidst transports of indescribable enthusiasm.

#### SPAIN.

Cadiz has fallen; the King is liberated, and he has published a proclamation,—oblivion of the past and recognition of the acts of the constitutional government.

#### ITALY

The Cardinal Della Ganga has been elected Pope.

#### TURKEY.

Konich, July 14.—There has just occurred in this ancient capital of Turkey, in Asia, an extraordinary event, by which our situation is very well indicated. Turk of this city, who happened to be in the unfortunate Chio, took from the island & Greek woman, whom he enslaved, and then married, after having forced her to embrace Islamism. One night, while the Mussulman was asleep, she seized a cutlass, and in a moment of delirium, occasioned by horrible recollections, she plunged it into the bosom of her ravisher.

At that moment, her vengeance being satisfied, and nature having resumed its empire, she fell into a swoon, and continued in it for a long time. Having recovered, and seeing the blood, she again fainted, and remained in that state to an advanced hour of the day. On opening the chamber, the body of the Turk was observed on one side, and on another a female, whose appearance seemed to indicate that the persons who entered

came to arrest her. She was brought before the Pacha, and asked whether she was the person who murdered her husband? "Yes," she replied, "I have killed a monster, who had the barbarity to murder my father, my mother, my husband, and child in Chio! who then brought me here, and strove to make me a Turk!"

The people ran in crowds to assist in her punishment, but the Pacha, after having heard her story, pardoned her and sent her home, to the great astonishment of the Mussulmans, who were obliged in this, as in other cases, to recognize the finger of Providence.

# NOVEMBER.

# GREAT BRITAIN.

1.—The public attention has been for some time entirely absorbed by the iniquitous murder of Mr. Weare. The evidence has unfolded a mass of wickedness most systematically conducted in established gaming-houses, and among the "fancy," of which very few appear to have had the smallest idea. As the best summary of the whole we give Hunt's confession before the inquest.

# Hunt's Statement.

In consequence of an indictment against John Thurtell and Thomas Thurtell, for defrauding the County Fire Office of 1900 and odd pounds, Thomas and John Thurtell left the Cock Tavern, in the Haymarket, and took their residence at a Mr. Tetsell's (the Coach and Horses), in Conduitstreet, Bond-street. I was invited to dine with them. I called there

there on the Friday morning, Oct. 13, when John Thurtell invited me to take a walk. I walked with him as far as High-street, Mary-le-bone. We stopped at a jeweller's shop; while we were looking there, John Thurtell observed a pair of pistols, which he said he would go and look at, for he wanted to purchase some. They were marked 11. 17s. 6d. John Thurtell observed, he wanted them to kill cats, and paid for them 11. 5s. From there we returned to the Coach and Horses and dined. John Thurtell asked me after dinner if I knew where I could get him a gig. He gave me 11. 10s. for the gig, for which I paid 11.5s. He told me not to say that the gig was going to Hertford, but to Dartford. returned with the gig to the Coach and Horses about a quarter before five. John Thurtell immedistely got into the gig, said he could not wait any longer, as he had a gentleman to meet. After he was gone, Mr. Probert said to me, as John Thurtell has gone down to the cottage, have you any objection to take a seat in my gig, as he (John T.) is obliged to be out of the way, in consequence of the warrants being out against him for the conspiracy; most likely we should spend a pleasant evening together. About six o'clock on Friday evening Mr. Probert's gig was brought to the door of the Coach and Horses. I took a seat in his gig; we proceeded as far Mr. Probert as Oxford-street. said we must take something home for supper; we stopped at a pork shop, where I got out and purchased a loin of pork. We proceeded from there as far as a Mr. Harding's, a publican in the Edg-

ware-road, where we had a glass of brandy and water. From there we proceeded as far as a Mr. Clarke's, another publican, at Edgware, and had two more glasses of brandy and water; from there we proceeded to this house. thought we had three, but from what appears from the landlord (Mr. Field), we had five more glasses. We did not get out of the gig here. Mr. Probert observed to Mr. Field, that the friend that was with him could sing a very excellent song; Mr. Field said he should be very happy to hear one. Mr. Probert wished me to sing a verse, but I declined. We proceeded from this house about a quarter of a mile. Probert stopped the gig and said to me, "Hunt, you get out and wait my return;" I did so. About half an hour or more might have elapsed when Mr. Probert returned, and desired me to get into the gig, and we would make the best of our way to the cottage. When we arrived at the cottage, John Thurtell was in the stable. Mr. Probert said to me, "Hunt, take that loin of pork out of the gig; take it into the kitchen, and desire the cook to dress it immediately." I took the pork into the kitchen, and remained in the kitchen about ten minutes, when John Thurtell and Mr. Probert We went into the parfollowed. lour. I was introduced to Mrs. Probert. John Thurtell then called me and Mr. Probert into the garden, and said, "I have killed that ---- that robbed meof 300l. at blind hookey" (a game "Good God!" said at cards). Mr. Probert, "John, surely you have not been guilty of so rash an act?" J. Thurtell immediately D %

took from his pocket a very handsome gold watch, and said, "Do you believe me now? and if you will go with me, I will show you where he lies dead behind a hedge." Mr. Probert then said, "This has taken such an effect on me, that I must retire, and get some brandy." We then went into the parlour; the supper was brought in, which consisted of pork chops, the loin I brought down having been cut into chops. I ate two chops, and so did Mr. Probert. John Thurtell declined eating any, as he complained of being extremely sick. Mr. Probert and I then went into the garden again, when Mr. Probert said to me, "Surely, Hunt, this man has not been guilty of murder?" I observed that it looked very suspicious, he (John Thurtell) having so valuable a watch. Thurtell followed, and asked Mr. Probert and myself if we would accompany and assist him in carrying the dead man? During this time Mrs. Probert was gone to bed. John Thurtell said, if neither of you will assist, I will go myself. accordingly went by himself, and was gone about ten minutes or a quarter of an hour. During the time he was gone, Mr. Probert said to me, "If this is the case, Hunt, that John Thurtell has murdered the man, it will, ultimately, be the ruin of me and my family." After this conversation was over between me and Mr. Probert, John Thurtell returned, saying -"This —— is too heavy for me; and if you won't assist me, I shall put the bridle on my horse, and throw the dead man across his He accordingly put the bridle on his horse for that purpose. Mr. Probert and me. while he was gone the second time, went

into the parlour, and he said to me, "Hunt, this has taken such an effect of me, and I am so agitated, that I don't know what to do." He said, "What will my wife think?" I observed to Mr. Probert—" You may do as you please about going to bed; I shall not go to bed, as I am confident I shall not be able to sleep, after having heard this horrid account from John Thurtell. John Thurtell then returned to us in the parlour, and said to Mr. Probert and myself, "I have thrown the dead man into your fish-pond." "Then by -, Sir," said Mr. Probert, "I must insist upon your immediately going and taking him away off my premises, for such conduct will evidently be my ruin." Me and Mr. Probert, and John Thurtell, went to the pond, where we saw the toes of a man, or at least we had every reason to believe it was a man, according to his own statement. John Thurtell then got a line or rope and threw it round the feet, then dragged it to the centre of the pond. Thurtell then said to Mr. Probert, "Don't give yourself a moment's uneasiness, the man shall not remain here long—you well know, Probert, that I would not do anything that would injure you or your family." We then went into the parlour; John Thurtell threw himself upon some chairs; Mr. Probert went up to his wife, I believe; I sat in an arm chair. Next morning, after breakfast, Mr. Probert said, "You are going to town," to me and John Thurtell, "but I shall expect you will return to-morrow (Sunday) to dinner," which I promised, and did. Mr. Probert said to John Thurtell, "Mind and. bring

bring a piece of roast beef with you, or we shall have nothing for dinner." We then left the cottage and went to London. I left John Thurtell at Mr. Tetsell's (the Coach and Horses) with his brother Thomas. On Sunday morning we left Mr. Tetsell's in a horse and gig, taking with us a piece of roast beef and two botties of rum. John Thurtell said to me, when we got as far as Tyburn, " My brother Tom is a-head and Thomas Noyes." (Thomas Noves is the brother-in-law of Mr. Probert.) When we got to the bottom of Maida-hill, we took up Thomas Thurtell, who joined us for the express purpose of seeing his two children, that had been on a visit to Mr. Probert's. When we had travelled three or four miles from Maida-hill, we met Thomas Noves. John Thurtell got out of the gig, leaving me and Thomas Thurtell together in it, to make the best of our way to the cottage, in order that Thomas Thurtell might put Mr. Probert's horse into his gig to fetch John Thurtell and Mr. Noyes. When we arrived at the cottage, the horse that we went down with was taken out of the gig, and Mr. Probert's put in. After Thomas Thurtell was gone to fetch Noyes and John Thurtell, Mr. Probert said to me, " I have not had a moment's peace since I saw you last, in consequence of that man lying in my pond." My reply was, "I am sure you have not had a more restless night than myself." Shortly after that, Thomas and John Thurtell and Mr. Noves arrived at the cottage. We then, I mean the whole four of us (Hunt, Thomas and John Thurtell, and Noyes), walked across a ploughed

field into a lane, and returned to the cottage. When we arrived at the cottage, there was a gentleman whose name I do not know, but I believe him to be the gentleman that owns the estate, came in. Noves, the Thurtells, and myself walked about the grounds till we were called in by one of Thomas Thurtell's children to dinner. After dinner we had some rum and water, and sat for the space of three hours, and then had tea. After tea we had some more rum and water, and then went to the stables to see the horses. then had supper. John Thurtell, myself, Thomas Noyes, and Mr. Probert sat up till about half-past one. Mr. Probert and Thomas Thurtell then went to bed, leaving me, John Thurtell, and Noyes up. About half an hour after they were gone to bed, Thomas Noves followed, leaving John Thurtell and myself in the parlour. John Thurtell desired the servant to bring in some coals. I said to J. Thurtell, I shall lie down on the sofa. He said he would sit up and smoke. I left him smoking by the fire, with his back towards me, and I laid down, pulling my great coat over me. About halfpast six in the morning the servant came into the room. J. Thurtell asked if the boy Jem was up. The servant said "No, and it was a great shame that her master, Mr. Probert, should keep such a boy as him in idleness. During this time, Mr. Probert came down stairs, and the boy followed. He desired the boy to put the horse in his own gig, which was done immediately, and Thomas Thurtell and myself came to town, bringing with us the boy they called "Jem." When we

got as far as the Bald Face Stag, we breakfasted. From thence we went to Mr. Tetsell's, where Thomas Thurtell was informed that the bail he had put in was not accepted. About half-past eleven I called at my mother's, in Cumberland-street, New-road. After I had seen her, going from the New-road towards the Yorkshire Stingo, I met John Thurtell, Thomas Noves, and Miss Noves, his John Thurtell asked me if the bail was accepted? I said "No." He then got out of the gig, and T. Noves and his sister drove away. I and John Thurtell walked to Mr. Tetsell's. Thomas Thurtell asked me if I would return on that day and inform Mr. Probert that his bail had been refused, to which I consented; about half-past four I started; as I was going along John Thurtell came to the end of the street to me, and said, "If you are going to Probert's, I may as well go with you, and get that man away" (meaning the man that was left in the pond). I said, "If you are going upon that business, don't expect me to aid or assist in any way." We came and stopped at this house; John Thurtell had a glass of brandy and water, and I had a pint of ale; we then left this house, and went to Mr. Probert's. I informed Mr. Probert, in the presence of his wife, that Thomas Thurtell requested me to come down, as that evening, to know whether he could appoint any other person to become bail? Mr. Probert said, it was useless for him to write, for that he would be up in town as early as possible the following morning; we then had part of a cold duck and some ale; J. Thur-

tell then called Mr. Probert out; Mr. Probert was absent about ten minutes, and then returned by himself; shortly after that, J Thurtell asked me and Mr. Probert, if we would put his horse in the gig, and take it round to the second gate? We put the horse John Thurtell to, and did so. then came across a small field. with a dead man in a sack, with his legs hanging out; he then asked Mr. Probert to assist him to put the dead body in the chaise, which Mr. Probert refused to do; Mr. Probert immediately ran away, and said I cannot stop any longer, my wife will think it very strange; he then asked me to assist him; I refused, saying, the sight of a dead man was quite enough, without touching it; John Thurtell then put the corpse in the chaise, and tied the feet to the dashing iron; he asked me if I would get into the gig, but I declined, and told him that I would walk on, and he would overtake me; when I got within a short distance of this house, John Thurtell told me that he had thrown the corpse into that marshy pond I had just passed. I then got into the gig, and left John Thurtell about two o'clock that morning, at the house where he then lodged, and went home myself immediately. That, Gentlemen, is the whole of the evidence I have to give tonight.

Coroner — You have nothing more to add?—No, Sir.

Coroner — Now, Mr. Hunt, I will ask you a few questions arising out of your statement, which I think I have a just right to do.

The following examination, which seemed rather to arise out

of facts which had previously come to the Coroner's knowledge, than from the statement just concluded, then took place:—

I did not observe that you stated any property was divided between you?—There were six pounds given to me, which I considered as paying me for my professional duties.

What professional duties?—I was taken down there to sing to Mr. Probert and his company.

Who gave you this sum ?--- Mr. John Thurtell.

Did he give money to any one else?—He gave the same sum to Mr. Probert.

Was any agreement made with you by Mr. Probert before you went out of town, or did you go down of yourself? Did you go down to the cottage for the purpose of singing?---Yes, Sir, certainly.

Did you sing ?--- Yes, Sir.

To whom?—To Mrs. Probert, her sister, Thomas and John Thurtell, and Mr. Noyes.

Were Mr. Probert and Mr. John Thurtell in the room?---

What day was this?—This was on the Friday night, or, more properly speaking, early on the Saturday morning?—It was after twelve.

Was that after John Thurtell came into the room and informed you and Probert that the murder had been committed?—Yes.

Did you hear John Thurtell say he kept six pounds for himself?---No, Sir.

Then after John Thurtell had called you and Probert out, and told you of the diabolical deed, you returned quietly to sing in the parlour?---Yes, Sir.

How long were you absent?--About ten minutes.

And no further conversation passed about the murder?—None whatever. I was introduced to Mrs. Probert; she knew very well on what business I had come down.

You were fully aware of the murder?—I was not fully aware of it. I was told of it by John Thurtell.

You saw the watch ?---Yes, and I thought that was suspicious.

In the presence of Mr. John Thurtell, Mr. Probert, &c. and after the former had told you he had murdered this unfortunate person, you amused yourself with singing?——Yes, Sir.

And you made yourselves merry during the evening?——Yes, Sir.

And you consider that the 6*L* you received was for your exertions on this evening?---I was there on the Sunday.

Did you consider that you received the 6*l*. for no other reason? ---No, certainly not.

You have stated that you saw the pistols bought, and that Thurtell said they were for shooting cats. After he bought them, did nothing pass between you and him?—Nothing whatever.

Do you know where the sack was bought?—Yes.

Who bought it?—I did.

Do you know where the cord was bought?—Yes.

Who bought it? I did.

You received the 6l. from Mr. John Thurtell?—Yes.

Where did he take it from !— From a pocket-book.

Were you going away after you

got

got the 6l. and finished your professional labours? — No, Sir, it was too late an hour. It was one or two in the morning. It was after Mrs. Probert had gone to bed.

He did not take the money from his pocket?—No; it was from a sort of note-case. He paid Mr. Probert with a 5l. note and a sovereign.

Do you know what he gave Mr. Probert money for?—No, Sir, I

do not.

Was there any observation made by Mr. John Thurtell when he paid this money?—No.

Nothing respecting the murder?

—Nothing passed the whole of the evening about that business.

You were all extremely cheer-

ful?-Yes, Sir.

Did you see a purse?—John Thurtell had a brown silk purse, as well as the small note-case.

What did he do with the note-case?—He threw it in the fire.

What did he do with the purse?

He threw that in the fire also.

Did you see any papers put in the fire?—There was a little betting-book put in the fire.

Then it was given to you as your share of the money found?

-Yes, Sir.

Where did you hire the horse?

—At Probert's, at the Golden
Cross-yard; no relation to the
prisoner Probert.

Then you do not know from your own knowledge, or from information, what became of the deceased's clothes?—I have not the slightest knowledge.

Had you ever any of the deceased's clothes on your back?-

Never.

On Sunday evening had you

any other person's clothes on except your own? — On Sunday evening I had a suit of black clothes on of John Thurtell's.

For what purpose did you exchange your dress?—As it was Sunday, I wished to appear decent

and respectable.

Were you given to understand the clothes you put on in Probert's house on the Sunday were the property of the murdered man?— Why yes, I have since been given to understand so, for I told the officer where to find them.

Did you go up with John Thurtell, when he went to London?—

Yes, Sir.

Was there not a carpet bag put into the gig?—When we left Probert's, there was a carpet bag put into the gig, and a boxcoat and a gun, and a powder-horn, with a shooting jacket.

Were there any other things in the gig when he left the Coach and Horses on the Friday night?—

No. Sir.

If you did not know what these things were, how did you know how to give a description of them when you ordered them to be given up?—I did not say I had not seen them.

Then you knew the contents of the carpet bag? — Yes; John Thurtell sorted them up, and put them into my drawers, and desired them to be taken care of. The bag was left in the gig all night, and was brought to my house in the morning.

Probert was brought before the Jury, and entered into a full statement of his connexion with the Thurtells and Hunt. He admitted that he dined with them on the Friday the murder took place, and conveyed Hunt down to his house

in his chaise at the request of John Thurtell; that he put Hunt down a short distance from his house, who said he had promised to meet John Thurtell there; that when he arrived at his gate, John Thurtell met him, and said, "that he had killed his friend, and done the trick;" that he exclaimed "Good God! you have not committed murder?" that the body was afterwards removed by Hunt and John Thurtell to the pond; that he lent John Thurtell six pounds in London, where they dined in Conduit street, and received six pounds from him in his parlour on the night of the murder, when John Thurtell produced a note-case. containing three 5l. notes, and a purse containing sovereigns, and said, "This is all I got by the job;" that the body was subsequently removed by John Thurtell from his pond to another place; that he found a spade on his grounds, and that Hunt assisted in removing the body. He then made a general declaration of his innocence of the murder, and protested that he did not know the man's name, who or what he was, and never had seen him in his life.

The Coroner addressed the Jury at some length, and they returned a verdict of Wilful Murder against John Thurtell as a principal, and against Hunt and Probert as accessaries before the fact.

Thurtell and Hunt were afterwards found guilty, Thurtell was executed, and Hunt respited in consequence of the evidence.

# SPAIN.

Riego has been tried.

The Second Chamber of the Senores Alcaldes of the Royal

Household and Court have just pronounced the following sentence:—

Don Rafael Riego is condemned to the punishment of the gibbet. He shall be conducted to the place of execution, passing through the most frequented streets of the capital. His property shall be confiscated to the King; he is besides condemned in the costs of the suit.

The prisoner has been placed at ten o'clock this morning in the chapel.

Madrid, Nov. 7.—Riego was executed this morning. He asked pardon of the King and the people. An immense crowd assembled round the place, where order was perfectly maintained. The convict was not insulted. After the execution, the only thing heard were the cries of "Live the King."

The King entered Madrid on the 13th.

#### GERMANY.

The South has been most distressingly injured by inundations —many villages have been swept away.

The Emperor of Russia, the Emperor of Austria, and the King of Prussia, have each deprived Sir R. Wilson of the orders they had conferred upon him.

# GREECE.

Zunte, Oct. 20.—The citadel of Acro-Corinth surrendered to the Greeks about the middle of Oct. The garrison is to be transported to the Coast of Asia Minor. Coron is now capitulating. The fortress of Rethgmon, in the Island of Candia, surrendered in the beginning of September. A Hydriot squadron

١,

squadron is expected in the Gulf of Patras.

# DECEMBER.

# GREAT BRITAIN.

Polygamy.—A man named Matthews, who has for the last year been employed in this city as a journeyman bell-hanger, having contracted an intimacy with a young woman, a servant, whom he understood to possess a little money, gained at length her affections, and they were married at Bristol. Previously to returning home, Matthews went to an ironmonger's, where he selected some articles to stock his intended shop, which he desired might remain till sent for, when the money should be remitted; but took with him knives and forks to the value of 51. They then returned to Bath, and at the expiration of about four days, Matthews pretended that it would be necessary for him to go to Birmingham to make purchases, and prevailed on his wife to give up to him great part of her money: he then left her, and has not since been heard of! The poor young woman, after waiting some time for his return, applied for information to the persons with whom he previously lodged, who informed her that he had left Bath entirely, and was gone home to his wife and family at Birmingham. This atrocious conduct is but part of this wretch's villainy: he had actually but a few days before married another young woman in Bristol, whom he abandoned in a similar manner. He was likewise in treaty of marriage with a young woman of Devizes, who gave up a good situation with the intention of being married to him.—Bath Herald.

There are at present building in Sunderland nearly 40 sail of ships, principally about 200 tons register, and upwards. Forty-five new vessels have been registered in the port during 1823.—Dunfrics Courier.

A meeting was held to receive the report of a Committee who had undertaken to investigate the project of Mr. Williams, for making sub-ways. It appeared that Mr. Davies Gilbert, Mr. M. A. Taylor, and Sir William Congreve, had considered the plan, and did not think it altogether impracticable. On the suggestion, however, of Mr. Alderman Garratt (the chairman of the meeting), that the details were not sufficiently matured, the meeting adjourned for three months.

Discovery of a Roman Town, &c.-From the Caledonian Mercury. In the parish of Strathmiglo, Fifeshire, there were lately dug up, within four feet of the surface, six bronze vessels of different capacities, from 1 mutchkin Scots, to 10 pints Scots, or 20 gallons English, unquestionably of Roman antiquity. These, however, have proved to be only a presage to still greater and more important discoveries recently made. A Roman town, the Urbs Orea of Tacitus and Ptolemy, so long the object of the most anxious researches of the zealous antiquary, has been also discovered at a short distance, consisting of about 30 houses, in three rows, whose foundations are yet distinctly visible, with the fragments of three or four different specimens of urns, found about these ancient ruins. About a mile west, nearly 40 bronze Roman military weapons of different kinds have been found all lying together. A

little to the north, a Roman urn, and two Roman coins, have been recently picked up, one of them the Emperor Domitian's coins, in excellent preservation, which, with one of the foresaid vessels, and four of said military weapons, are now in the possession of the writer of this article. What appeared to be most remarkable about the new discovered town Orea, is a stupendous triangular table, cut out of the freestone rock, upon a pedestal and pillar, and standing, with little alteration, as the Romans had left it. This seems to have been a table to the Sun, and an inseparable appendage to all the Roman towns.

20.—Between the hours of five and six in the evening, as Henry Medlicott, Esq. and his lady were returning home to their house in Charlotte-street, Fitzroy-square, he was accosted by a man who craved assistance of a pecuniary nature, in terms of urgent impor-Mr. Medlicott, from the fellow's appearance, did not by any means conceive him an object calculated to excite much compassion: he was young, hale, and hearty, to all appearance equal to any ordinary labour, and he therefore told him that he would not relieve him, and said, that if a man was inclined to work, he need never want employment in London. The fellow continued to press for some aid, alleging, in reply to Mr. Medlicott's remark, that he had sought work at several places, but could not procure any, and that he was willing to do any sort of labour sooner than beg or starve. The gentleman, however, declined giving him money in a very peremptory manner, adding, that he need neither starve nor beg, even though he did not work; he should go to the parish officers, and they would relieve him, but he considered that it would be very wrong to give promiscuous alms, as it encouraged idleness by contributing to the support of an idler. Mr. Medlicott and his lady had just then reached the top of London-street, when the wretch struck Mr. Medlicott a blow on the back part of the head with a stone, or some heavy weight, which was fastened at the bottom of a bag or stocking which the fellow carried in his hand, no doubt prepared for the purpose. gentleman fell, stunned by the stroke, and his lady dropped beside him, almost equally insensible. When Mr. Medlicott sunk on the ground, the villain snatched at his watch, which being suspended from the neck by a strong steel chain, the tug was ineffectual as to the article itself, though a great part of the chain (a gold one), together with the appendages of seals, keys, &c. became the prize of the robber, who ran down London-street, and crossed Tottenham-court-road. Mr. Medlicott and his lady were taken home, and the wound being examined by a medical gentleman, he pronounced it of no very great moment. For the lady, however, apprehensions were more strongly awakened, as she continued in hysterics and intermittent faintings for nearly an hour. was far advanced in pregnancy.

21.—At eight o'clock, according to annual custom, a large quantity of bread and cheese was distributed at Paddington church amongst the populace: the assemblage was immense, and the scramble to obtain it was beyond conception. On former years it used to be thrown from the belfry of the church amongst the crowd; but owing to

the

the confusion and many accidents occasioned thereby, the present mode was adopted in its stead. This custom, which has long been observed on the Sunday preceding Christmas-day, had its origin, we are informed, in the will of two old maiden sisters (paupers), who, travelling to London to claim an estate, which they afterwards gained, and being much distressed, were first relieved at Paddington.

28.—Mansion-house.—J. Smith, a beggar, about 53 years of age, who has been frequently charged at all the police-offices in the metropolis, was brought before the Lord Mayor under circumstances which prove that his love of the art of mendicity has perhaps never been equalled ever since the poor laws were framed. It was stated that the defendant had been repeatedly clothed at Bridewell and other places, and provided with work, which, however, he abandoned the moment the eve of the taskmaster was turned from him. His next proceeding was to sell all his good clothes, to decorate himself with rags, and to take his station, and reiterate his importunities for a trifle, "for God's sake, for a poor man out of work."

The Lord Mayor asked him how often he had been in prison for begging?

Beggar.—I can't recollect—often and often.

The Lord Mayor,—Where?
Beggar.—Every where.

The Lord Mayor.—You have been at the tread-mill?

Beggar.—God bless you: yes.
The Lord Mayor.—You didn't like it; did you?

Beggar.-By no means.

The Lord Mayor.—Have you ever been whipped?

Beggar.—That I have.
The Lord Mayor.—Often?

Beggar (pausing).--Why three or four times; but I wouldn't swear

it wasn't five times.

The Lord Mayor.—And you wouldn't work after that?

Beggar.—I went to my old business.

The Lord Mayor.—I must send you to prison. You are the most desperate beggar in this coun-

Beggar.—As you did have me taken up, I am glad your worship did it on Wednesday, for I got a pound of your worship's beef, and bread and beer, on Christmas day, without doing any thing for it, and I thank your worship for it, and hope to get the same next Christmas-day.

The defendant was then sent to the House of Correction for three months, to hard labour.

Packets to Buenos Aures. &c.— Government has determined to establish direct communication between this country and South America, by means of regular packets, which are to sail from Falmouth direct to Buenos Ayres, from which place the letters for Peru, Chili, &c. will be forwarded by land. The following vessels have been appointed for this service :- the Magnet, Rinaldo, Beagle, Emulous, Plover, Cygnet, and King's-fisher; they are to be commanded by Lieutenants of the Navy, and we understand that Lieuts. Cooke, Goodwin, Moore, Jennings, and Henderson, have already been appointed; the first mail is to be despatched for Buenos Ayres on the 2nd of January, and a packet will afterwards sail the first Tuesday in each month.-West Briton.

France

## FRANCE.

4th.—Dr. Castaing the physician was executed at Paris for poisoning Ballet.

#### SPAIN.

The King has been petitioned by the Bishop of Taragora and his prelates to reestablish the Inquisition.

#### GERMARY.

The Dance of Torches.—Berlin, Dec. 3.—Of all the entertainments which have taken place in this capital, on the occasion of the marriage of the Prince Royal with the Princess of Bavaria, none appeared so extraordinary to foreigners as the dance of Torches (Fakeltanz.) It was executed after the grand marriage feast, in the following manner:—"The Royal Family, followed by all the personages who had partook of the feast at separate tables, proceeded to the white sa-The dance was immediately opened by the Privy Councillor, Marshal of the Court, the Baron de Maltzahn, bearing his baton of After him followed two and two, according to seniority of rank, the Privy Councillors and the Ministers of state, bearing wax torches. The august bride and bridegroom preceded the above dancers, and walked round the sa-The Princess Royal stopped before the King, and making him a profound reverence, invited him After having danced to dance. one turn with his Majesty, she danced with all the Princes. Prince Royal, in like manner, danced with all the Princesses. After the ball, the Royal Family passed into the apartment of Frederick I., where the Grand Mistress, Countess of Norde, distributed the garter of the bride.

#### DENMARK.

4th.—Dr. Herbert and thirtyfour physicians deposed to the fact of 274 needles being extracted from the body of a young woman at Copenhagen.

#### GREECE.

Extract of a Letter, dated Zante, Oct. 28, 1823.—" It will not be without interest you will learn that Corinth has just delivered itself up by capitulation to the Greeks. The Turks have endeavoured to make themselves masters of the fortress of Missolonghi, that was before so well defended by the Prince Mayrocordato; their attempts will be without avail; 6000 men now occupy this fortress, and if they were reduced to 1500, they could defend it. Colocotroni is to march with a certain number to defend the siege, and the Hydriots have just sailed to repulse the assailants."

Lord Byron has paid 100,000 piastres into the Treasury at Hydra, in aid of the Greek cause.

# WEST INDIES.

diabolical system Slavery must earlier or later work its own downfall. In the short space of time which the insurrection at Demerara occupied, more iniquitous and cruel acts were committed than it might have. been supposed such space would have allowed; between 3 and 500 Negroes lost their lives. false evidence was most treacherously taken under the implied promise of pardon, which, when the poor creatures found was not fulfilled, they afterwards recanted. Mr. Smith the Missionary was arrested, and confined in a most arbitrary and unconstitutional

manner-

manner-neither his papers, nor any friendly communication allowed him-tried by a court martial; and, just as his majesty's order for his liberation arrived, he had died in his prison a martyr to the cause in which he had engaged!

From Barbadoes, we have the following:

Great and signal triumph over Methodism, and total Destruction of the Chapel!

> Bridge-Town, Tuesday, Oct. 21, 1823.

The inhabitants of this island are respectfully informed, that in consequence of the unmerited and unprovoked attacks which have repeatedly been made upon the community by the Methodist Missionaries (otherwise known agents to the villainous African Society), a party of respectable gentlemen formed the resolution of closing the Methodist concern altogether: with this view they commenced labours on Sunday evening, and they have the greatest satisfaction in announcing that by 12 o'clock last night they effected the total destruction of the chapel.

To this information they have to add, that the Missionary made his escape yesterday afternoon in a small vessel for St. Vincent; thereby avoiding that expression of the public feeling towards him, personally, which he had so richly

deserved.

It is hoped that, as this information will be circulated throughout the different islands and colonies. all persons who consider themselves true lovers of religion, will follow the laudable example of the Barbadians, in putting an end to Methodism and Methodist\_ chapels throughout the West Indies.

Copy of Sir Henry Warde's proclamation, as it appeared in " The Barbadian" Newspaper of the 22d of October, 1823:—

Barbadoes,

Whereas it has been represented to me that a riotous assembly collected at the Wesleyan Chapel on Sunday night, the 19th, and Monday night, the 20th instant, and proceeded to demolish the building, which they completely destroyed: And whereas if such an outrageous violation of all law and order be suffered to pass unpunished, no man will be safe either in person or property; since when the very ends of civil association are thus defeated—the people, finding the laws too feeble to afford them protection, must court the favour of the mob, and remain entirely at their mercy; in such a state of things the laws are only a scourge to the weak : and whereas, in a society constituted as this is, the very worst consequences are to be apprehended from such evil example:

I do therefore, by and with the advice of his Majesty's Council, hereby offer a reward of one hundred pounds to any person or persons who will give such information as will lead to the conviction of any person or persons concerned in the aforesaid riotous pro-

ceedings.

Given under my hand and seal at Arms at Government House, this 22d day of October, 1823, and in the fourth year of His Majesty's reign.

God save the King!

By His Excellency's command, W. Husbands, Dep. Sec. Bridge-

Bridge-Town, Thursday, Oct 23. Whereas a proclamation having appeared in The Barbadian newspaper of yesterday, issued by order of his Excellency the Governor, offering a reward of 100% for the conviction of any person or persons concerned in the said-to-be riotous proceedings of the 19th and 20th inst.; public notice is hereby given to such person or persons who may feel inclined, either from pecuniary temptation or vindictive feeling, that should they attempt to come forward to injure, in any shape, any individual, they shall receive that punishment which their crimes will justly de-They are to understand that to impeach is not to convict, and that the reward offered will only be given upon conviction, which cannot be effected whilst the people are firm to themselves.

And whereas it may appear to those persons who are unacquainted with the circumstances which occasioned the said proclamation, that the demolition of the chapel was effected by the rabble of this community, in order to create anarchy, riot, and insubordination, to trample upon the laws of the country, and to subvert good order: It is considered an imperative duty to repel the charge, and to state -firstly, that the majority of the persons assembled were of the first respectability, and were supported by the concurrence of 9-10ths of the community; secondly, that their motives were patriotic and loyal—namely, to eradicate from this soil the germ of Methodism, which was spreading its baneful influence over a certain class, and which ultimately would have injured both Church and State. With this view the chapel was demolished, and the villainous preacher who

headed it, and belied us, was compelled by a speedy flight to remove himself from the island.

With a fixed determination, therefore, to put an end to Methodism in this island, all Methodist preachers are warned not to approach these shores; as, if they do, it will be at their own peril.

God save the King, and the people.

The state of the case was this:---It appears that Mr. Shrewsbury, the methodist preacher, in his correspondence with the Missionary Society, represented Barbadoes as an island of infamous blasphemy, it being no uncommon occurrence to hear children, as soon as they are able to speak, curse their parents; and, generally speaking, they were of most unruly dispositions and inclinations. And as to the adults, it appeared to him as though the sun of religion had never shed its rays on their heads: he made but few exceptions to this sweeping calumny (in favour of persons who permitted him to preach to their negroes). knowledge that Mr. Shrewsbury had made such communications, and which he did not attempt to refute, created a great sensation to his prejudice in the public mind; and many idle persons collected about the Wesleyan chapel, evening after evening, breaking the windows, throwing squibs and crackers in at the door, riding to and fro on horseback, and saluting the congregation assembled for devotional purposes with catcalls, whistles, blowing of horns, and every description of offensive Mr. Shrewsbury was undismayed by these proceedings, and continued to assemble his This infuriated the mob to flock. such a degree, that they became ungovernable, and a paper signed

Z. was handed about on Saturday, inviting the rabble to meet at the chapel-door at seven o'clock, armed with pick-axes, swords, crows, saws, hatchets, &c.: accordingly, about 1000 headstrong fellows did assemble, and began to demolish the chapel, and by twelve at night had completely annihilated the building, carrying off in their flight all the materials, so that at day-break not a piece of wood was to be found near the spot.

Not only in this case, but generally, the utmost contempt has been shewn, and insult offered, to the government of the country.

#### AMERICA.

The President's message has been received, and speaks of ge-

neral prosperity.

The American Hermit.—[From the Newhaven Herald, a United States paper.]-Died, on the East Rock, in this town, ---- Turner, usually called "The Hermit." This singular being had for a number of years lived in seclusion on the top of this rock, the ascent to which is both difficult and tedious. His residence was a cabin, built of earth and stone, with an aperture which served both as an entrance and a chimney. the extremity of this cabin was his bed, composed of husks and boughs, where, on Sunday, the and instant, he was found dead. An inquest was held on his body, whose verdict was-"That he died by the visitation of God." His person was covered with rags, and in that part of them which served as his trowsers there was found, strongly sewed in triple folds, upwards of forty dollars in silver, which seems to show, that though he had renounced the world, the love of gain was still

inherent. The only companions of his retirement were two or three sheep, which he fed with care, and they enjoyed all his tenderness. He was extremely taciturn in his manner, communicated little to inquirers, and was both ignorant and repulsive. In winter he appeared frequently at the doors of the citizens, with a basket; asked for nothing, spoke little; but whatever was given him he took away quietly. The only food found in his tenement, was two or three birds, picked for cooking, and a few potatoes. We believe he was a native of some of the neighbouring towns, but of his early life, or the motives which led him to seek such an uncomfortable asylum from the vanities of life, we have no knowledge.

Baltimore, Oct. 15.—Caraccas papers, received at the office of the Guzette, state, that the Congress of Colombia has granted to Juan Bernardo Elbers, the exclusive privilege of navigating the river Magdalena with steam boats for twenty-one years. It seems to have been admitted on all hands that this desirable and important object could in no other way be present obtained, and Mr. Elbers was the successful candidate over many, in consequence of his binding himself not only to establish steam-boats, but to open roads and canals, which will render the passage from Carthagena and Santa Martha into the interior provinces and to the capital, Bogota, open, safe, and expeditious. The undertaking to commence in one year from the passing of the law, which grants various facilities for carrying on the different works connected with it, and exclusive advantages to the men who may labour in their accomplishment.

# MARRIAGES in the year 1823.

January. At St. George's, Hanover-square, the Hon. Major-general Fermor, only brother of the Earl of Pomfret, to Miss Borough, eldest daughter of Sir Richard Borough, Bart. of Portland-place, and niece to Lord Viscount Lake.

February. At Naples, at the palace of the English Ambassador, George W. Aubrey, Esq. only son of Major George Aubrey, of Brecon, Brecknockshire, Wales, to Elizabeth Anne, eldest daughter of the Hon. George Henry Monk, and niece and adopted daughter of the Hon. James Monk, Chief Justice of Montreal, Lower Canada.

At the chapel of the British Ambassador at Paris, Robert Woodhouse, Esq., President of Caius College, and Plumian Professor of Astronomy in the University of Cambridge, to Harriet, daughter of the late William

Wilkins, Esq.

At St. George's, Hanoversquare, Chas. Arthur Gore Esq., of the 1st Regiment of Life Guards, to Catherine Frances, youngest daughter of the late Chas. Moody, Esq.

At Castle-hill, the seat of Earl Fortescue, Major Hamlyn Williams, of the 7th Hussars, son of Sir J. H. Williams, Bart. of Edwinsford, Carmarthenshire, to

Lady Mary Fortescue.

At St. Pancras church, by the Rev. Dr. Moore, the Rev. Harry West, rector of Berwick, and vicar of Laughton, in the county of Sussex, to Louisa, daughter of the late Sir Robert Barker, Bart.

1823.

At Mrs. Walker's, Georgestreet, Edinburgh, by the Rev. Sir Henry Moncrieff Wellwood, Bart., John Hall, Esq. eldest son of Sir James Hall of Dunglass, Bart., to Miss Juliana Walker, youngest daughter of the late James Walker, Esq., of Dabry, Principal Clerk of Session.

On the 12th inst., at Bow Church, Middlesex, by the Rev. Dr. Macleod, rector of St. Ann's Westminster, and afterwards at Grove-hall, in the presence of his Excellency the Swedish Ambassador, by the Rev. J. P. Wahlin, chaplain to the Swedish Embassy, Captain C.R. Nordenskjold, eldest son of Baron Nordenskjold, of Fareby, in Sweden, and Masby, in Finland, to Margaret, youngest daughter of the late Rev. Dr. Lindsey, of Grove-hall.

At Edinburgh, the Right Hon. Lord Dunsany to the Hon. Miss

Kinnaird.

March: At Marylebone church, by the Rev. John Mitford, of Benhall, Suffolk, Henry Revell Reynolds, jun., Esq. son of Henry Revell Reynolds, Esq. Chief Commissioner of the Court for the Relief of Insolvent Debtors, to Mary Anne, fourth daughter of the late Sir Edward Knatchbull, Bart., of Mersham-hatch, in the county of Kent, and eldest daughter of the Dowager Lady Knatchbull, of Wimpole-street.

April. In Lower Brook-street, by his Grace the Archbishop of York, Emma Agnes, the second daughter of Henry Howard, of Corby-castle, in the county of Cumberland, to the Right Hon.

William Lord Petre.

(E) Captain

Captain James Lindsay, of the Grenadier Guards, eldest son of the Hon. Robert Lindsay of Balcarres, to Anne, eldest daughter of Sir Coutts Trotter, of Grosvenor-square, Bart.

W. B. Baring, Esq. eldest son of Alex. Baring, Esq. M. P., to Lady Harriet Mary Montagu, daughter of the late Earl of Sandwich.

By the Rev. John Buchan, episcopal minister of Kirriemuir, John Wedderburn, Esq., to the Hon. Lady Helen Ogilvy, youngest daughter of the late, and sister of the present, Earl of Airly.

May. On the 1st inst., at St. Luke's, Chelsea, Charles Schreiber, Esq., of Hinchelsea-lodge, Hants, to Amelia, eldest daughter of Major-general Sir John Cameron,

K.C.B.

June. At Walcot church, Bath, John Uniacke, Esq., of Baughton, Cheshire, to Anne, only daughter of the late, Wm. Pierrepont, Esq., Rear-Admiral of the Blue, of Farley hill, in the county of Surrey.

At Marylebone church, J. D. Fitzgerald, Esq., Deputy Assistant Commissary-General to the forces, to Mary Ann, only daughter of the late R. Fuller, Esq., of York-street, Portman-square,

July. R. Price, Esq. M. P. for the county of Hereford, to Mary Anne Elizabeth, youngest daughter of the late Rev. Dr. Price. Prebendary of Durham.

At Nuncaton, Vedra Breda, the celebrated Indian Juggler, to Sarah, sixth daughter of Mr. S.

Steads, of Leicester.

The Hon. Mr. Henry Lascelles, second son of the Earl and Countess of Harewood, to Lady Louisa. Thymne, second eldest daughter of the Marquis and Marchipagas of Bath.

At Otley, Lieut.-general Sir Edward Barnes, K. C. B., Governor of Ceylon, to Maria, eldest daughter of Walter Fawkes, Esq., of Farnley-hall, in the county of York.

August. At St. George's, Hanover-square, Frederick Alexander, son of Sir Wm. Augustus Cunynghame, Bart., to Ann, youngest daughter of Edward Earl, Esq., Chairman of the Board of Customs for Scotland.

John Vaughan, Esq., one of his Majesty's sergeants at law, to the Right Hon. Louisa Baroness St. John, widow of St. Andrew, late Lord St. John, of Bletzos, and mother of the present Lord.

At Marylebone church, Captain Franklin, R. N., to Eleanor Anne, youngest daughter of the late Wm. Porden, Esq., of Berners-

street.

September. At Miserden, Frederick Lindsay, Esq. son of Robert Lindsay, Esq. of Loughry, county Tyrone, Ireland, to Agnes, eldest daughter of Sir Edwin, Bayntun Sandys, Bart. of Miserden Park, Cheltenham, and Chadlington Hall, Oxfordshire,

At Long Ditton, Captain Valentine Collard, of the Royal Navy, to Mary Ann, daughter of G.

Kempster, Esq.

At St. George's, Hanoversquare, the Hon. Thomas Dundas, eldest son of Lord Dundas, to Sophia Jane, daughter of the late, and sister to the present Sir Hedworth Williamson, Bart.

At St. Marylebene church, Francis Henry Davis, Esq. of his Majesty's Remembrancer's Office, to Lucy Clementina, only daughter of Lord Maurice Drummond.

October. At Kimbolton, by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Lincoln, Lincoln, Evan Bailke, Esq. of to Lady Georgiana Dochfour, Montagu, daughter of the Duke

of Manchester.

At the New Church, St. Marylebone, Sir Charles Joshua Smith, Bart. of Suttons, in Essex, to Belinda, daughter of the late George Colebrooke, Esq. and grand-daughter of Sir George Colebrooke, Bart.

Bath, At Weston church, Major A. Campbell, of the 3d Guards, to Mary, sister to Captain S. Brown, of the Royal Navy.

At Ditton Park, the Hon. P. F. Cust, M. P. to Lady Isabella Scott, daughter of the late Duke

of Buccleugh.

At. St. James's November. church, Capt. Bernard Yeoman, R. N. to Charlotte, youngest daughter of Sir Everard Home, Bart.

At Staple-grove, near Taunton, Major Stepney Cowell, of the Coldstream Guards, to Euphemia Jensima, eldest daughter of Generad John Murray, and sister to Major-general Murray, Lieut.governor of Demerara.

# DEATHS in the year 1823.

January. At his house at Chapton, in the 58th year of his age, Samuel Pett, Esq. M. D.

In Bryanston-street, Portmansquare, Teresa, the wife of Robert Selby, Esq. and sister to the Earl of Shrewsbury, in the 62d year of her age.

At Draycot, in Wiltshire, the Lady Catherine Tylney Long, relict of the late Sir James Tylney Long, Bart, and aunt to the present Earl of Plymouth.

At Camden-street, Islington,

R. Temple, Esq., late Lieutcolonel of the 28d Regiment Welsh Fusileers, and Captain of the 87th Regiment of foot.

At his seat near Dublin, C. H. Baron Castlecoote, Chief Commissioner of Customs in Ireland.

in his 68th year.

At No. 27, Sidney-street, Cityroad, Mrs. Logie, at the great age of 109 years.

At his house at Berkeley, after a very short illness, the celebrated

Dr. Jenner.

At his house in Bedford-row, Charles Hatton, LL.D. F.R.S. &c. in the 86th year of his age.

John Julius Angerstein, Esq. at his villa at Blackheath.

At Willesden-house, Middlesex, aged 74, Sir Rupert George,

At Kensington, the Right Hon. Viscountess Frances Dowager Montague.

February. Lady Edw. Somerset, wife of Lord Ed. Somerset.

At her house in Piccadilly, Magdalene, Countess Dowager of Dysart, widow of Lionel fourth-Earl of Dysart, and daughter of the late and sister to the present David Lewis, Esq. of Malvern, in the county of Worcester.

In Bryanston-square, the Rev. Rich. Roberts, D. D. late High Master of St. Paul's School.

At Deptford, aged 78, Wm.

Oswald, Esq.

In Portland-place, aged 66, Walker Jordan, Esq. M.A. F.R.S. one of the Benchers of the Inner Temple, and Agent for the Island of Barbadoes.

At Dawlish, in the 83d year of his age, John Schank, Esq. Admiral of the Blue.

On the 1st inst., at Nice, where he E 2

he had gone for the recovery of his health, the Honourable Edward Spencer Cowper, brother of Earl

Cowper.

At Coln St. Aldwin's, near Fairford, Gloucestershire, General Lister, late Colonel of the 45th Regiment, and Governor of Languard Fort, in his 89th year.

At the house of the Marchioness of Headford, at West-End, Hampstead, Lady Georgisna Quin, in her 29th year. Her Ladyship was the wife of Lord George Quin, second son of the Marquis of Headfort, and was the second and youngest daughter of Earl Spencer.

At Friars'-hall, Roxburghshire, the High Hon. Lord Ashburton.

At his house in Bedford-square, Brighton, Sir John Eamer, Alderman of London, in the 74th year of his age.

March. The Earl St. Vincent, at his seat, Rochetts, in the 89th

year of his age.

Viscount Keith, in his 77th

year.

In Sloane-street, the Baron Best, one of his Majesty's Hanoverian Privy Counsellors, K. C. H., and F. R. S., &c. aged 67.

At her residence, Stoke-cottage, near Guildford, Lady Burnaby, aged 84, relict of the late admiral Sir Wm. Burnaby, Bart. of Broughton-hall, Oxfordshire.

April. At Chelsea, Wm. Henry Moseley, M. D., in the 67th year of his age, many years physician to his Majesty's forces in Egypt, the Peninsula, &c.

In Tenterden-streef, the Dowager Viscountess Torrington.

On the 4th of September, 1822, the Rev. Henry Lloyd Loring, D. D. Archdeacon of Calcutta. At her seat in Wales, aged 67, the Right Hon. Diana Baroness Barham, wife of Sir Gerard Noel Noel, Bart. of Exton Park, in the county of Rutland, M. P.

In Montaga-square, in his 71st year, Sir Charles Warwick Bamfylde, Bart. of Poltimore, in the county of Devon, and Hardington Park, in the county of Somerset.

At his lodgings in Cambridge, Sir Corbet Corbet, Bart. of Adderley Hall, Shropshire, and M.A.

of Trinity College.

At his seat, Hinley Hall, aged 74, Wm. Viscount Dudley and Ward.

At his house in Mortimer-street, Cavendish-square, Joseph Nollekins, Esq. R. A. in the 86th year of his age.

In Soho-square, aged 73, A. Arrowsmith, Esq. the celebrated geographer.

At her house in Park-street, the Right Hon. Catherine, Countess Dowager Morton, aged 86.

May. Aged 83, Dr. John Thomas Troy, R. C. Archbishop of Dublin.

June. At his seat at Theobalds, near Hatfield, Herts, the

Marquis of Salisbury.

In Curzon-street, May-fair, General Robert Manners, Colonel of the 30th regiment, son of the late Lord Robert Manners, of Blox-holme.

At Louth Hall, Thomas Baron Louth, in the 60th year of his

age.

July. At his house in Upper Wimpole - street, Lieut. - general Thomas Bridges, of the Honourable East India Company's service, in his 80th year. He commanded the right wing in the army under the command of Lord Harris,

Harris, at the capture of Seringa-

At Trichinopoly, Hindostan, Mungo Park, M. D., eldest son of the late Mungo Park.

On the 19th inst., at his seat of Fleurs Castle, near Kelso, his Grace James Innes Ker, Duke and Earl of Roxburghe, in the \$8th year of his age. His Grace is succeeded in his honours and estates by his only son James, now Duke of Roxburghe, a minor, born in 1816. Failing the present Duke, without heirs male of his body. Lieut.-general Walter Ker, of Littledean and East Bolton, is the next heir of entail to these honours and estates.

At Leamington, aged 71, the Right Rev. Lord Bishop of Norwich.

At the house of Lord Beresford, in Wimpole-street, Major general Sir Dennis Pack, K.C.B. Lieut.-governor of Plymouth.

At the Pulteney Hotel, the Earl of Farnham; succeeded by the Right Hon. J. M. Barry.

August. At Brompton, aged 59, of the gout, Brooks Lawrence, late Lieutenant-colonel of the 13th Light Dragoons, in which regiment he served 38 years.

At Dacre-lodge, Middlesex, the Right Honourable Francis Lord Napier, of Merchistoun, N.B., Lord Lieutenant of the county of Selkirk, and one of the sixteen Representative Peers of Scotland.

At Bath, Lady Palliser, widow of the late and mother of the present Sir Hugh Palliser, Baronet.

At Sierra Leone, on the 3d of June last, of the malignant fever which then prevailed, Edward Fitzgerald, Esq., Chief Justice and Judge of the Vice Admiralty Court in that colony, and Assessor

to the Mixed Commission established there for the more effectual abolition of the slave-trade.

At Sierra Leone, July 21, aged 29, Charles Borrett, Esq. Deputy Assistant Commissary General.

September. At her house in Portland-place, the Dowager Lady Templetown.

At Great Ealing, aged 49, Mrs. A. M. Stephens, widow of the late Rear-Admiral G. H. Stephens.

August 81, at Asiseira, near Rio Maior, in Portugal, on his return from Figueira to Lisbon, R. B. Whitney, Esq. (who was barbarously shot and robbed by two assassins on the evening before, near the above place.)

At his sister's house, in Chester-field-street, May-fair, Joseph Charles Mellish, esq. H. B. M. Chargé d'Affaires and Consulgeneral for the Circle of Lower Saxony.

At the Crown Inn, Harrogate, in his 84th year, Sir Alan Chambre, Knt. late one of the Judges of his Majesty's Court of Common Pleas.

At Wellingborough, aged 80, the Dowager Lady Isham.

October. At Harewood-house, aged 20, the Hon. Frederick Lascelles, sixth son of the Earl and Countess of Harewood.

At Paris, the Earl of Barry-more.

At his seat, Willesley-hall, Derbyshire, General Sir Charles Hastings, Bart. G.C.H. late Colonel of the 12th regiment of foot, &c.

At Ingestre, Staffordshire, in her 23rd year, Frances Charlotte, Countess of Dartmouth.

Aged 22, Emma Straw, daughter of Mr. Straw, mayor's officer, of Lincoln. She died of a rapid

decline

decline in one menth from the first symptom, and was to have been married on the day of her death.

Charles Grant, Esq. the East India Director.

November. At Jersey, aged 43, John Dumaresq, Esq. his Majesty's Attorney-general, and Colonel of the 1st Regiment of Militia of that Island.

At the Hague, in his 50th year, the Right Hon. Reinord Deiderick Jacob Baron de Reede Ginckell, Count of the Holy Roman Empire, Lord of Ameronger Ginckell Elst and Leivenduel, Earl of Athlone, Viscount of Augheim, Baron of Ballemore, and a Lieutenant-colonel in the Army.

At Blackheath, General Sir Anthony Farrington, Bart. D.C.L. Commandant of the 1st Battalion Royal Artillery, and Director General of the Field Train Department, aged 88: he had been in the army 68 years, and was the oldest officer in the British service.

At Wexford, the Venerable Archdeacon Elgee. He was fifteen years and a half Curate of the parish, and twenty-eight Rester.

December. On the 29th of September last, in the saland of Barbadoes, the Hon. John Forster Alleyne, late President of his Majesty's Council of that island.

At his residence in Brookstreet, on the 10th instant, in his 65d year, Sir Eyre Coote, of West Park, Hants.

# BIOGRAPHICAL PARTICULARS OF CELEBRATED PERSONS DECRASED.

Dr. John Aikin, known to the public during the last forty years, was born at Kilworth, in Leicestershire, and was the son of the Rev. Mr. Aikin, a dissenting minister, who kept a classical academy at that place. He was apprenticed to a surgeon and apothecary at Uppingham, in Rutland; and, on completing his term, sent to Edinburgh, where he graduated as M.D. He settled in that profession at Yarmouth, and subsequently removed to Norwich; his celebrated sister, Mrs. Barbauld, and her husband, keeping a seminary at Thetford, in He removed to that county. London in 1794. Here he sought to combine practice with literary engagements among the booksellers; but, as the public never favour any man in two capacities,

his success as an author shut him out from medical practice; and at length he settled professedly as a man of letters, in 1802, at Stoke Newington, where Mr. and Mrs. Barbauld also took up their residence. A few years sines he suffered a severe attack of the palsy, which deprived him of his corporeal and mental faculties; and to other attacks of this disease he at length fell a victim in December 1822, in the 76th year of his age.

At Calcutta, on the 8th of July, 1822, died the Right Rev. Thomas Fanshaw Middleton, D.D. Lord Bishop of Calcutta, after a short but severe illness, which baffled all medical skill, This prelate was the son of a clergyman of the Church of England. He was educated on King Ed-

Christ's Hospital; and in consequence of his good conduct and classical proficiency, he obtained a Scholarship from the Trustees of that seminary, and was entered at Pembroke College, Cambridge, where he proceeded B. A. 1792. M. A. 1795. On entering into Holy Orders he undertook the laborious curacy of Gainsborough; at this time he conducted a useful periodical work, called the Coun-The Bishop of try Spectator. Lincoln gave him Tansor and another living, in the county of Northampton, on which he went to reside when he left Norwich. About this time he published his great work on the Greek Article. He was induced to change his preferment for the parish of St. Pancras, in London, to the Vicarage of which he was presented in 1812, having been collated at the same time Archdeacon of Huntingdon. — In 1815 he was appointed Bishop of Calcutta, and sailed for India in the autumn of that year. On that spacious theatre of Christian action, he entered with all the alacrity, zeal, and industry of a primitive bishop. He embraced the earliest opportunity of visiting every part of his vast diocese, where Christianity had penetrated, or was likely to gain a footing by his presence; even distant islands were not refused the benefit of his visitations. He preached, he exhorted, he bestowed his advice and his wealth wherever he could, by these services, promote the cause of religion or of humanity. Neither the length of his journeys, nor the oppressive heat and enervating influence of the climate, could deter him or relax his firm re-

ward the Sixth's foundation of solves; and there is too much reason to feat that he fell an early sacrifice to his high sense of duty and his consequent exertions. He was in his 52d year. Society for the Propagation of the Gospel entertained so high an opinion of his "discretion and zeal," that they placed at his disposal 50001. for the furtherance of their pious designs in India, and requested his advice as to the best means of further promoting the spread of the Gospel in that part of the world. In answer to this request he marked out the plan of a Mission College as the most probable means of giving permanency and extension to Christianity in the East. Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, and the Church Missionary Society also, conceived so favourable an opinion of it, that they each contributed 5000% to The building, which is about it. five miles from Calcutta, and is situated on the opposite side of the Hooghly, in all probability is now nearly completed, and is to be called Bishop's College. Professors " of very superior attainments and exemplary character" have been sent from England. twenty Scholarships have been founded, able Moonshees have been engaged to teach the various languages and dialects of the East; and every thing is in such a state of forwardness through the late Bishop's strenuous exertions, that, deeply as his loss will be felt by the establishment, yet will its business and completion proceed, undoubtedly, without delay.

On the 26th of January, at his house at Berkeley, Dr. Edward Jenner, the discoverer of Vaccination, in his 74th year. If any

man ever existed who possessed an original, and, we might almost add, an intuitive claim to the pretensions of a Natural Historian and Physiologist, Dr. Jenner was that claimant. The first medical professors in the metropolis allowed, that, had Dr. Jenner kept his discovery in the disguise of empirical secrecy, he would have realized immense emoluments; but the pure and liberal feelings which the Doctor possessed spurned and rejected such considerations; and his general remunerations, even including the sums voted by Parliament, were well known to confidential friends to be moderate in the extreme.---The meekness, gentleness, and simplicity of his demeanour, formed a most striking contrast to the self-esteem which might have arisen from the great and splendid consequences of his discovery. He was thankful and grateful for them in his heart; but to pride and vain-glory he seemed to be an utter stranger. On a recent interesting occasion, a short time before his death, the following were among the last words that he ever spoke to the writer of these The nature of his services to his fellow-creatures had been the subject of conversation: "I do not marvel," he observed, "that men are not grateful to me, but I am surprised that they do not feel gratitude to God, for making me a medium of good."

Died, near Lausanne, on the 26th of February, J. P. Kemble, Esq. in his 66th year.—On his return he purchased a He was the eldest son of Mr. sixth part of the property of Roger Kemble, and was born in Covent Garden patent, and became Manager of that Theatre; He received the first part of his which situation he filled till a scanducation at the Roman Catholic son or two before his retirement.

seminary at Sedgeley Park, in Staffordshire, and was afterwards sent to the University of Dousy to be qualified for one of the learned professions. Here he soon became distinguished for that talent for elocution which afterwards raised him to such eminence. Having finished his academical studies, he returned to England, and, preferring the stage to either of the professions for which he had been intended, he performed at Liverpool, York, and Edinburgh. He afterwards performed for two years with flattering success in Dublin. Mr. Kemble made his first appearance in London, at Drury-lane Theatre. in the character of Hamlet, Sept. **3**0, 1783. His reception was most encouraging: but he had not an opportunity of fully developing his powers till the retirement of Mr. Smith, in 1788, who had been in possession of almost all the principal parts both in tragedy and comedy. On the secession of. Mr. King, Mr. Kemble became. Manager of Drury-lane Theatre, which office he filled till 1796. Shortly afterwards he resumed the management, and held it till the conclusion of the season 1800-1. In 1802 Mr. Kemble visited the Continent, for the purpose of introducing to the British stage whatever he might find worthy of adoption in foreign theatres. He spent a twelvemonth at Paris and Madrid, where he was honoured with that marked consideration. which his eminent talents merited. On his return he purchased a Covent Garden patent, and became Manager of that Theatre; which situation he filled till a season or two before his retirement.

At Rochetts, Essex, aged 89, Earl St. Vincent. His Lordship ment the admiral says in his deswas born at Meaford in January At an early period of his 1785. life, he entered into the naval service of his country. As a midshipman and lieutenant, he was remarkable for an assiduous attention to his duties; and thereby laid the foundation for that profound knowledge of naval science which he so eminently possessed. He was remarkable in his early life for yielding to the necessary discipline of his profession, which he enforced so well when he himself became a commander. In April 1766, he was made post-captain; rear-admiral of the blue, December 1790: vice-admiral, April 1794; admiral February 1799; and admiral of the fleet, July 1821. Among the earlier exploits of Lord St. Vincent, the capture of the Pegase, of 74 guns, stands conspicuous. It took place in the night of the 20th of April, 1782. He then commanded the Foudroyant, of 74 guns, in the fleet under the command of Admiral Barrington. About one o'clock on that day, an enemy's fleet was discovered at a great distance, and a signal was given for a general chase. At the close of the evening, seven ships had got a-head, the Foudroyant, Captain Jervis, being the foremost. In the night, it coming to blow strong, with hazy weather, after having lost his companions, at half-past twelve o'clock he brought the French ship, the Pegase, of 74 guns and 700 men, to a close action, which continued for three quarters of anhour, when, the Foudroyant having. laid her on board on the larboard quarter, the Frenchman.

۷.,

struck. Of this brilliant achievepatch, "My pen is not equal to the praise that is due to the good conduct, bravery, and discipline of Captain Jervis, his officers, and seamen, on this occasion. Let his. own modest narrative, which I herewith enclose, speak for itself." Soon after this, Captain Jervis wasmade a Knight of the Bath. celebrated battle of Cape St., Vin-: cent will for ever stand conspicuous in the naval annals of Great. Britain. This memorable action: took place on the 14th of February, 1797. The British fleet, under Sir John Jervis, amounted to. no more than fifteen sail of the The Spanish fleet consistline. ed of twenty-seven sail of the line; one of which was a fourdecker, carrying 186 guns, and was the largest ship in the world;. six were three-deckers, of 112; guns each; two of 84 guns; and eighteen of 74 guns. fleet was under the command of Admiral Cordova, on its way to: form a junction with the French. fleet, for the purpose of invading. Ireland, then in a rebellious and distracted state. The moment was most critical and important... The responsibility attached to encountering the enemy with such as disparity of force, would have justified the bravest man in declin. ing such a contest. But Sir John: Jervis, confident in the skill and; bravery of the Nelsons, the Collingwoods, the Trowbridges, and the heroes he commanded, seized. with his characteristic promptitude the brilliant opportunity, and in a battle which for the manner in which it was planned and executed can never be surpassed—her gained a most important and deci-

rive victory. The Salvador del Mundo, and the Sun Josef, of 113 gans each, the San Nicholas of 34, and the San Isidro of 74 gues, were taken; the rest, many of them absolute wrecks, (partioutlity the 136 gan ship, which was fought by Nelson, with a 74,) took shelter in Cadis, and were there blockaded by the gallant From the excellent skill and discipline of the British ficet, the fire of our ships was superior to that of their oppoments, in the proportion of five or size to one. The Cultoden, Captain Trowbridge, expended 179 burrels of powder; the Captain, Commodore Nelson, 146; and the Blenheim, Captain Frederick, 160 barreis. Soon after this Sir John Jervis was created a peer, by the title of Baron Jervis, of Menford, and Viscount and **Earl** of St. Vincent.

At Kincardine, in Scotland, Admiral Lord Keith. He was born in the year 1747. His prometion, as post-captain, bears date May 11, 1775; and the follawing year, he was appointed to the Pearl frigate of thirty-two gans, in which vessel he served in America, under the orders of Lord Howe; and afterwards in the Persous frigate, under Admiral Arbachnot, at the reduction of Charlestown. On his return from America, Captain Blphinstone was appointed to the Warwick of fifty gune, is which vessel he fell in th, and captured; the Rotterdam, a Dotch man-of-war, of equal force; and some time after L'Aigle, a French frigate, of forty gum: and 600 men. On the commencement of the war with France, tions which they at present enjoy: in the year 1793, he was appoint- He was the proposer of the issue ed to command the Robust of of Exchequer Bills in 1793, by

seventy-four gans, one of the squadron under Lord Hook which sailed for the Maditerramean in the month of May. He was, in 1797, created a baron of the kingdom of Ireland, by the title of Lord Keith, and for a short time commanded a detachment of the Channel fleet. In the summer of the following year, he succeeded Earl St. Vincent in the command of the fleet in the Mediterranean; and soon after had the misfortune to lose his ship, the Queen Charlotte, in the Bay of Genoá, by an accidental fire. On the 1st of January, 1801, Lord Keith was advanced to be Admiral of the Blue; he at this time commanded the naval force employed against the French on the coast of Egypt. In 1803, Lord Keith commanded on the Downs station; and subsequently the Channel fleet, in 1814.

At Blackheath, John Julius An-This gentleman, gerstein, Esq. who was descended from a respectable family, was born at St. Petersburgh, in the year 1735. About 1749 he came to England, under the patronage of the late Andrew Thomson, Esq. an opulent Russia merchant. He at length reached the summit of commercial fame and prosperity; his reputation being spread to all quarters where commerce is known. In public loans his list was always ranked among the first, and monied men were anxious to obtain a place in it. Nor were his exertions confined only to his The frequenters of own benefit. Lloyd's Coffee-house owe to his strenuous efforts the accommodawhich,

which, at a critical moment, relief was afforded to trade. The Veterinary College would, perhaps, have sunk to the ground, had he not made a vigorous effort in its favour, at a moment when its funds were nearly exhausted; and he was the first to propose, from the fund at Lloyd's, a reward of two thousand pounds to that meritorious discovery, the lifeboat. As a patron of art he ranked high. His collection in Pall Mail contained some of the finest works of the Foreign and British artists, and were always visible through the courtesy of

their possessor. In Stafford-row, Pimlico, Mrs. Anne Radeliffe, long known and admired by the world, as the able authoress of some of the best romances that have ever appeared in the English language; and which have been translated into every European tongue. Her first work was Athlin and Dumblaine, her second The Romance of the Forest, and her third The Sicilian Romance, which established her fame as an elegant and original writer. next production, published in 1793, was the famous Mysteries of Udolpho, for which the Robinsons gave her 1000l. In 1794, Mrs. Radcliffe gave to the world a Narrative of bes. Travels in France, Germany, and Italy; but in describing matters of fact, her writings were not equally favour-Some years after, Cadell and Davies gave her 1500l. for her Italians, which, though generally read, did not increase her reputation. The anonymous criticisms which appeared upon this work, the imitations of her style and manner by various literary adventurers, the publication of some other novels under a name slightly varied for the purpose of imposing on the public, and the flippant use of the term "Radcliffe school," by scribblers of all classes, tended altogether to disgust her with the world, and create a depression of spirits, which led her for many years, in a considerable degree, to seclade herself from society. It is understood that she had written other works, which, on these accounts, she withheld from publication, in spite of the solicitude of her friends, and of tempting offers made her by various publishers. Her loss of spirits was followed by ill health; and the only solace of her latter years was the unwearied attentions of an affectionate husband, whose good intelligence enabled him to appreciate her extraordinary worth. The situation in which they resided, during the last ten years, is one of the most cheerful round the metropolis; and here, under a gradual decay of her mental and bodily powers, this intellectual ornament of her sex expired on the 7th day of February, in the 62d year of her age.

At his seat, Duntisborn, mean Cirencester, Sept. 23, Matthew Baillie, M. D. This gentlesses was a native of Scotland, and son of a professor of divinity at Glasgow. After having received the rudiments of education at Glasgow, he was sent to London, under the care of his two maternal uncles, the late Dr. William and Mr. John Hunter. Under these he acquired an extensive and complete knowledge of the profession he intended to pursue. He was

**Berli** 

sent early to Oxford, where he took his degrees; and was admitsed to that of M. D. in 1789. Repairing to London, he was made a member of the College of Physicians about the same period as Dr. Vaughan (now Sir Henry Halford.) These two gentlemen soon came into great practice, and perhaps there is no instance of two men in the medical profession rising so young to so great an eminence. To Dr. Baillie the medical world is indebted for a work of great merit, entitled "The Morbid Anatomy of the Human Body," 1793; to which he added an Appendix in 1798; and which reached the fourth edition in 1807. In 1799 he published "A Series of Engravings to illustrate the Morbid Anatomy," which reached a second edition in 1812. He has likewise published "Anatomical Description of the Gravid Uterus." These works, and the high character he bore in his profession, brought him into great practice, and enabled him to accumulate a good fortune: "a fortune (as his biographer in the Public Characters says) which was gained with much reputation, and to the entire satisfaction of those who employed him." had been physician to the late king, and, no doubt, he might have been to the present; but Dr. Baillie did not seek honours. He was brother to the celebrated Miss Joanna Baillie. He married. early in life, Miss Denman, daughter of the late Dr. Denman, and sister to the celebrated advocate of that name and Lady Croft.

At Almondale, six or seven miles from Edinburgh, of an inflammation of the chest, *Thomas*Lord Erskine. He had been twice

before ill of the complaint which proved fatal to him-(in 1807 and 1819.) His recovery at the latter of these periods was deemed impossible, but his extraordinary stamina bore him out against the expectation of the physicians. Lord Erskine was seventy-five He was the third years of age. son of the late, and youngest brother to the present Earl of Buchan. He was born in Scotland in 1750; and, the contracted means of his family rendering it necessary that he should choose some active profession, was educated for the naval service, and went to sea at a very early age with Sir John Lindsay, nephew of the great Earl of Mansfield. is said to have attained only the rank of a Lieutenant. On quitting the sea-service, he entered into the army as an Ensign in the Royals. This was in the year 1768, and arose less from inclination, than that his father's small and strictly entailed estate did not admit of his assisting his son with the means requisite for enabling him to pursue one of the learned professions. Mr. Erakine aca companied his regiment to Minorca, where he spent three of the six years during which he continued in the service. On his return to England in 1772, he appears to have acquired considerable reputation for the acuteness and versatility of his conversetional talents. Boswell, who met with him about this time, in his Life of Johnson mentions that he was accustomed to talk "with a vivacity, fluency, and precision so uncommon, that he attracted particular attention." Mr. Erskine had married in early life a young lady named Moore, who accompanied

panied him to Minorca, and who was a woman of exemplary virtue. The pay of a subaltern officer affording but few enjoyments beyond those which were consistent with the most rigid economy, Mr. Erskine at length, encouraged by the approbation of his mother, the Countess of Buchan, entered upon the study of the law in 1777, and registered his name as a Fellow Commoner of Trinity College, Cambridge, and a student of Lincoln's Inn. One of his college declamations is still extant, as Trinity College delivered in Chapel. The thesis was the Revolution of 1688. It gained the first prize; which our young lawver refused to accept, not considering himself a student, but merely as declaiming in conformity to the Indeed his rules of the College. classical education was already complete, and it was simply with the view to obtain a degree (by which he saved two years and a half in his passage to the bar) that he became a member of the University. He was called to the bar in 1778; and was very shortly afterwards presented with an opportunity of displaying his shining oratorical powers. Captain Baillie, who had been deprived of the Directorship of Greenwich Hospital by the late Earl of Sandwich, then first Lord of the Admiralty and one of the Governors of Greenwich Hospital, was charged with having published a libel on that noblemen, and the Attorney-general was instructed to move for leave to file a criminal information against him. It was as counsel for the Captain on this occasion that Mr. Erskine made his first speech in court; and the intrinsic merits of this maiden essay, added

to the novelty of a young lawyer's indulging in the most caustic invective against a powerful statesman who held an elevated post in the administration, excited a degree of attention which his most sanguine hopes had scarcely dazed to anticipate. Such was the impression created by his eloquent defence of Captain Baillie, that on leaving the Court he is said to have been presented with no less than thirty briefs! A short time afterwards, Mr. Erskine appeared at the bar of the House of Commons as counsel for Carnan, the bookseller, against a bill introduced by Lord North, then Prime Minister, to revest in the Universities the monopoly in almanacks, which Carnan had succeeded in abolishing by legal judgments; and he was fortunate enough to place the noble lord in a considerable minority upon a division. His defence of Admiral Keppel, for which he received a thousand guineas, completely established his fame as an advocate; and from that time business began to press upon him to an extraordinary extent, and he was looked upon as one of the most able counsellors in the Court of King's Bench. He subsequently conducted the defence of Lord George Gordon; and having delivered to the jury the doctrine of hightreason, wound up his address with the following forcible pero-"I say by God, that man is a ruffian, who, on such evidence as this, seeks to establish a conclusion of guilt." In the early part of 1783, at the recommendation of the venerable Earl of Mansfield. Mr. Erskine obtained a silk gown. and in the same year was nominated to a seat in the House of Commons

the borough of Portsmouth. His professional labours were now considerably augmented; and he was appointed by his present Majesty, then Prince of Wales, to the aitmation which had been so long occupied by Mr. Dunning, afterwards Lord Ashburton, in conducting trials for crim. con. sometimes for the plaintiff, and at others for the defendant. Among the most extraordinary cases of this description in which he was employed, is the remarkable one of Baldwin rersus Oliver, tried at York, and that of Sir Henry Vane Tempest, in both of which he acted for the defendants, and succeeded so far that one shilling was the entire sum awarded as damages against them. In trials for libel, the talents of Mr. Erskine were always found most effective on the part of the defence. On the trial of the Dean of St. Asaph, at Shrewsbury, for a libel, Mr. Erskine appeared as counsel for the defendant; when the jury delivered a verdict finding the Dean guilty of only publishing the libel. Mr. Justice Buller, who presided at the trial, desired them te reconsider it, as it could not be recorded in the terms in which they had expressed it. On this occasion, Mr. Erskine insisted that the verdict should be recorded precisely as it was found. This was resisted by the Judge, who, finding unusual opposition, peremptorily desired him to sit down, or he should compel him. "My Lord," returned Mr. Erskine, "I will not sit down. Your Lordship may do your duty, but I will do mine." The Judge was silent. His defence of Paine is said to have cost Mr. Erskine the

Commons as a representative of situation of Attorney-general to the Prince of Wales. In 1802, however, he was restored to his situation, and also made Keeper of the Seals to the Duchy of Cornwall. The most brilliant event in his professional life was the part he undertook, in conjunction with Sir Vicary Gibbs, in the state-trials in the year 1794. The trials lasted several days, and ended in the acquittal of the prisoners. In 1806, on the accession of Mr. Fox and his party to power, Mr. Erskine was sworn a member of the Privy Council, created a Baron (Feb. 7, 1806) by the title of Lord Erskine, of Restormel Castle, in Cornwall, and entrusted with the great seal as Lord High Chancellor of England, in which latter capacity he presided at the trial of Lord Melville. On the dissolution of the Whig administration, Lord Erskine retired upon a pension of four thousand pounds a year. Although his Lordship was in opposition to the measures of Government, the Prince Regent, in 1815, invested him with the order of the Thistle, as a high mark of esteem, the other eleven Knights being all Dukes and Earls of Great Britain. For several years past his Lordship has been living in retirement.

### PROMOTIONS in 1823.

Sir H. Wellesley as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Emperor of Austria.

The Earl of Clanwilliam, as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the King of Prussia.

Henry Watkin Williams Wynn,

to be his Majesty's Envey Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to his Majesty the King of Wurtemberg.

Charles Richard Vaughan, Esq. to be his Majesty's Minister Planipotentiary to the Confederated States of the Swiss Cantons.

The Honourable Algernon Percy, to be Secretary to his Majenty's Embassy at Paris.

Gibbs Crawford Antuckus

Gibbs Crawford Antrohus, Esq. to be Secretary to his Majesty's

Legation at Turin.

William John Croshie, Eaq. to be Secretary to his Majesty's Legation to the Confederated States of the Swiss Cantons.

The Rev. Charles Richard Summer, Chaplain in Ordinary to

his Majesty.

Sir Edward Hyde, Knight, to he a Baronet of the United Kingdom.

Mr. Vansittart to be Chancellor of the Ducky of Lancaster, and to be Baron Bexley.

Lord Beresford to be Lieut.-

general of the Ordnance.

Major-general Sir Edward Barnes, K. C. B. to be Governor and Commander-in-chief of the Island of Ceylon.

William George Earl of Erroll to be one of the Lords of his Ma-

jesty's Bed-chamber.

The Right Hon. Charles Arbuthnot, M. P., William Dacres Adams, and Henry Dawkins, Esqrs. to be Commissioners of His Majesty's Woods, Forests, and Land Revenues.

Lieut.-general the Hon. Sir Galbraith Lowry Cole, G. C.B., Governor of the island of Mauri-

tius.

His Royal Highness William Henry, Duke of Clarence, K. G.,

K. T., and G. C.B., Admiral of the Fleet, to be General of his Majesty's Royal Marine Forces, in the room of the Earl of St. Vincent, deceased.

George Romeester, Eeq., to be his Majesty's Cansul for the island

of Sardinia.

The Right Hon. W. Huskisson to be President of the Committee of Council, appointed for the consideration of all matters relating to Trade and Foreign Plantations.

The Right Hon. C. Grant to be President of the Committee of Council, appointed for the consideration of all matters relating to Trade and Foreign Plantations, in the absence of the Right Hon. W. Huskisson, or of the President of the Committee.

Colonel Six Henry Hardinge, K.C.B. to be Clerk of the Ordnance of the United Kingdom.

The Right Hon, the Earl of Morton, K.T. to be his Majenty's High Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

W. Burton, Esq. to be Page of Honour in Ordinary to his Ma-

jesty.

Mr. Felicio Calvet, to be Consul-general at Gibraltar for his Majesty the King of Portugal, Brazil, and Algarves.

Colonel James Russell, to be Gentleman Usher of his Majesty's most Honourable Privy Chamber

in Ordinary.

H. T. B. Mash, Esq. to be Assistant Master and Marshal of the Ceremonies to his Majesty.

Right Hon, William Lord Maryborough to be Master of his Majesty's Buck Hounds.

Sheriffe.

' SHERIFFS

Bedfordshire.—T. C. Higgins,

of Turvey, Esq.

Berkshire.—H. P. Sperling, of

Park-place, Esq.

Buckinghamshire. — William S.

Lowndes, of Whaddon-hall, Esq. Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire.—W. Rayner, of Wisbeach,

Esq.

Cheshire. J. White, of Sale, Esq. Cumberland. — E. Stanley, of Ponsonby-hall, Esq.

Cornwall. — C. Trelawny, of Coldrinick, Esq.

Derbyshire.—T. Bateman, of Middleton by Youlgrave, Esq.

Devonshire.—T. Bewes, of Beamont-house, Plymouth, Esq.

Dorsetshire.—H. C. Sturt, of Moor Critchell, Esq.

Essex.—J. J. Tufnell, of Langleys, Esq.

Gloucestershire. — J. Smith, of

Stapleton, Esq.

Herefordshire.—E. B. Pateshall, of Allensmore, Esq.

Hertfordshire.—R. Sutton, of Ross Way Northchurch, Esq.

Kent.—T. Austen, of Seven Oaks, Esq.

Leicestershire.—Sir W. Walker, of Leicester, Knight.

Lincolnshire.—Sir W. E. Welby, of Denton, Bart.

Monmouthshire.—J. Bailey, of

Nanty Glo, Esq.
Norfolk.—Sir E. K. Lacon, of

Ormesby, Bart.
Northamptonshire.-T. W. Hunt,

of Wadenhoe, Esq.

Northumberland.—P. J. Selby, of Twizell-house, Esq.

Nottinghamshire.— W. Mason, of East Retford, Esq.

Oxfordshire. — D. Stuart, of

Wykham-park, Esq.
Rutland.—T. Thompson, of

Rutland.—T. Thompson, of Tinwell, Esq.

- Shropskire. J. Mytton, of Halston, Esq.

Somersetshire.—J. F. Pinney, of

Somerton Erly, Esq.
Staffordshire.—J. Horden, of

Wolverhampton, Eq. County of Southampton.—E. Knight, jun. Chawton-park, Eq.

Suffolk. — Henry Usborne, of Branches-park, Esq.

Surrey.—Charles H. Turner, of

Rooks' Nest, Esq.

Sussex.—R. Prime, of Walberton-house, Esq.

Warwickshire.— E. Willes, of Newbold-Comyn, Esq.

Wiltshire.—J. Fuller, of Nestonpark, Esq.

Worcestershire. — J. Williams, of Pitmaston, Eaq.

Yorkshire. — W. Fawkes, of Farnley, Esq.

#### SOUTH WALES.

Carmarthen. - J. Phillips, of

Crygwan, Esq.

Pembroke.—O. Lewis, of Tre-

wern, Esq.

Cardigan.—G. W. Parry, of Llyduate, Esq.

Glamorgan. - J. Edwards, of Rheola, Esq.

Brecon.—C. Prichard, of Tre-walter, Esq.

Radnor.—J. B. Walsh, of Kevenlleece, Esq.

### NORTH WALES.

Anglesey. - J. Panton, of Plasgwyn, Esq.

Carnarvon. — W. Turner, of Garregfaur, Esq.

Merioneth:—James Wynne, of Cwmein, Esq.

Montgomery.—D. Pugh, of Llanerchydol, Esq.

Denbigh.—Sir D. Erskine, of Pwlley Crochon, Bart.

Flint.—P. D. Cooke, of Gwsaney, Esq.

FRICES OF STOCK DURING THE YEAR 1823.

The highest and lowest prices in each month are marked.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sep.	og F	Nov.	Dec.
Bank Stock.	246 286	285 284	237 236	210 2064	2204 2154	221 219	225 221	\$22 <b>3</b>	225 221	988 888 888	226 224	287 <u>8</u> 284 <u>8</u>
3 per ct. Red.	\$ 80g 7.5g	76	76 <u>4</u>	777	80 794	804 794	83 <u>4</u> 81 <u>4</u>	858 818	8 88 88	88 89	88.89 -8.48 -8.48	88 83 83
3 per ct. Cons.	{ 794 8 754	75 <u>8</u> 78 <u>8</u>	744 784	49.L	818 794	80 <u>8</u> 80	824 814	828 81 81 81	88 88 88	84 82	84 <u>4</u> 83	844 84
3g per cent.	8368 87	8778 8878 1887	87 864	- 1888 -	\$36 \$38	₹ <b>8</b> 6	95 <u>3</u> 98 <u>4</u>	962	97 95	97	97 95	994 978
4 per cent.	866 <b>&gt;</b>	9 88 -04 48	93 <u>‡</u> 93	95 <u>‡</u> 93 <u>‡</u>	978 953	99	100 99	101 993	101	101 91	1001 994	101 100
New 4 per et.	866 <b>\</b>	90 G 40 45 40 45	944 9844	98 943	100# 98#	100	101	1012	1024 100	104	104 <u>4</u> 103 <u>4</u>	10 <del>44</del> 103
Long Anns.	₹08 } ₩\$8 }	194 204	1988 194	20 193	08 708	20 <u>\$</u> 20	81 <del>4</del>	253 21	21 <u>4</u> 21	21 <del>4</del> 21	21 <del>2</del> 21	21 th
Imp. 8 per ct.	\$ 79 78	78	74½ 78	73g 74	78 76 <del>3</del>	80 798	81 80 <u>\$</u>	88 81	823 81	828 828	824 81	824 81
India Stock.	\$ <b>848</b> }	285	888 888	2454 2414	2514 245	245 245	255	260 261	398	267	<b>568</b>	698
India Bonds.	47 p. 82 p.	32 p. 21 p.	24 p. 20 p.	40 p. 29 p.	40 p.	48 p. 34 p.	56 p. 49 p.	57 p. 54 p.	60 59	78 61	84 78	81 78
S. S. Old stock.	89 <b>\$</b> 85	85 84	844 837	88 <u>\$</u> 87 <u>\$</u>	883 873	81 79	82 81	98 <del>3</del> 98	944 93	98 <del>1</del> 92	98 <b>8</b>	98 <del>1</del> 98
Ex. B. 2d. p. d.	{ 15pm. { 6 pm.	12pm. 7 pm.	12 p. 8	17 p.   10 p.	21 p. 15 p.	22 p. 16 p.	28pm. 24pm.	35pm. 26pm.	36 p.	87 p. 48 p.	50 48	57 48
Do. Small.	{ 17pm. { 8 pm.	13pm. 7 pm.	12 p. 9 p.	17 p. 10 p.	22 p. 15 p.	24 p. 16 p.	29pm. 24pm.	35pm. 26pm.	36 p.	87 p. 48 p.	50 p.	58 p.

(82) PRICES OF FOREIGN FUNDS IN LONDON, DURING THE YEAR.

The highest and lowest prices in each month are marked.

Jan. Peb. Mar. Apr. May Jun. July Aug. Sep. Oct. Nov. Dec. { 88⅓ 84 774 794 88<del>1</del> 85 77ā {82₹ 73 Russian 6 per Cent. Metallic .... {82⅓ 73 731 721 704 711 76± 80¥ 844 874 86¥ Ditto of 1822. .... 76<del>ž</del> **š** 83<u>ī</u> {814 74 Ditto Scrip.  ${77\frac{1}{72}}$ 67 77 76<del>1</del> Neapolitan. 76¥ {774 754 72<del>I</del> Ditto Scrip. 37£ {624 48 35<del>4</del> Spanish of 1820. .. 46<u>ā</u> 36<u>4</u> 33<u>4</u>  $\begin{cases} 55\frac{1}{4} \\ 40 \end{cases}$ 30± 37# Ditto of 1821. .... 33<del>1</del> 36<u>±</u> { 12 dis { 25} d Ditto Scrip, of 1822. (86 90# Prussian of 1818. .. 175<u>a</u> 79<del>‡</del> 84 ž {82<del>4</del> 79 76<del>1</del> 84<u>년</u> 83<u>년</u> 84<u>a</u> 87£ RR Ditto of 1822. .... 79∓ 81# 77 91# Danish in £ sterling. 75¥ Ditto in Marcs Ban-85<u>i</u> 69¥ 59<del>1</del> § 734 57∓ 68¥ Colombian..... 60± 55¥ 60ž {75 70 69∄ 70<del>1</del> 66<del>1</del> Chilian. ...... 66 j 64<u>∓</u> American 7 per Cent. 88<u>8</u> Ditto 6 per Cent. .. **(96** Ditto 5 per Cent. .. (70 Ditto 3 per Cent. .. ì 69± 21.5 Ditto Bank Shares. 21.5 21.5 21.5 21.5

## LITERARY RETROSPECT

AND

SELECTIONS.

# Programme of the progra

.

.

.

### RETROSPECT AND SELECTIONS

RELATIVE TO

# LITERATURE, ARTS AND SCIENCES, AND THE FINE ARTS.

#### CHAPTER I.

### BIOGRAPHICAL ANECDOTES AND CHARACTERS.

1.—Memoirs of the Private Life of Marie Antoinette Queen of France and Navarre, with Anecdotes, &c. of the Reign of Louis XIV. Louis XV. and Louis XVI: By Madame Campan, first femmede-chambre to the Queen.

Madame de Campan was the confidant of Marie Antoinette; and attachment to the Queen appears to be the ruling affection of her mind. She had, doubtless, opportunities which none beside could possess of obtaining information relative to the subject upon which she writes. Professing ourselves to be of no party whatever, we shall consider it our duty to register her details. The unfortunate queen, as well as other characters who are yet moving upon the stage, or have so lately passed off it, are too near the eye to be judged impartially; but it is by collating statements like these that posterity will give a more impartial award of praise or of censure.

Madame de Campan was first introduced at Court as reader to the Princess Victoire, daughter of Louis XV. and she remained there till the volcano of popular fury overwhelmed her sovereign, and separated the devoted attendant from her royal mistress and friend; but in all her reverses the same intense affection seems to have remained, and her memory retained the same admiration of her unfortunate queen. She observes, "I bave lived long, fortune has afforded me opportunities of seeing and forming an opinion of the celebrated women of several periods: I have been intimate with young persons whose elegance and amiable dispositions will be remembered long after they have ceased to exist; but never have I found, in any class or age, a woman of so fascinating a character as Marie Antoinette; one who, notwithstanding x 2 ·

standing the dazsling splendour of royalty, retained such tenderness of heart; who under the pressure of her own misfortunes shewed more sensibility to the woes of others. I never saw one so heroic in danger, so eloquent when occasion required, so unreservedly gay

in prosperity."

And, again, "Pardon me, aushade! unhappy queen, pardon me! Thy portrait is near me while I am writing these words. My imagination, impressed with the remembrance of thy sorrows, every instant directs my eyes to those features which I wish to animate, and to read in them whether I am doing service to thy memory in writing this work. When I look at that noble head which fell by the fury of barbarians, tears fill my eyes, and suspend my narration. Yes, I will speak the truth, by which thy shade can never be injured; truth must prove favourable to her whom falsehood so cruelly wronged."

The character of the French Court at the period of the arrival of Marie Antoinette, was in the most extreme degree voluptuous and dissipated: it had sunk nearly to that degree of baseness, united with tyranny, which no people could tolerate; and Louis XVI., the most amiable of the last of its kings, was condemned to atone by his destruction for the crimes of his predecessors.

It is no piece of good fortune to be born a prince or a princess; and Marie Antoinette experienced this from her childhood; even her education was made subservient to the ambition or the caprice of those around her; and to the influence of the Abbé de Vermond, was to be attributed many of those imprudent steps which, although trivial in themselves, must be regarded as the first causes of much of her unhappiness, and of many of the calumnies by which she was pursued.

The marriage of Marie Antoinette with the Dauphin was determined upon during the administration of the Duke de Choiseul; and the Marquis de Durfort was appointed proxy for the marriage ceremony, and ambassador to Vienna; but the subsequent disgrace of the Duke de Choiseul, six months after the Dauphin's marriage, enabled Madame de Marsan and Madame de Guémenee (for the ladies ruled every thing at the French court, ) to appoint as ambassador Prince Louis de Rohan, than whom, Madame de Campan observes, a worse selection, or one more disagreeable to Marie Therese, could not have been made: immoral in character, no way respected by the Imperial court, and so much straitened for money, that he smuggled to such an extent, that Marie Therese, to put a stop to it without offending the court of France, was compelled to take away the privileges, in this respect, from all the diplomatic bodies. Madame Campan observes, she had heard the queen say, in the office of the Secretary of the Prince of Rohan at Vienna, more silk stockings were sold in one year than at Paris and Lyons together. This is the man whose existence was afterwards so injurious to the reputation of Marie Antoinette.

Madame Campan counts it her next misfortune, that the Countess de Noalles was assigned her for an adviser—an excellent woman in herself, but very improper to

be

be the counsellor of a young person of light and gay spirits: her mien was stiff and severe, nothing to win, without sweetness of manner, and totally unengaging.-Etiquette was her forte, and she wearied the young princess with her perpetual remonstrances. Yet in France this etiquette was necessary—her dignity and reputation depended upon it. The Abbé de Vermond, on the other hand, ridiculed both the etiquette and the adviser.

"The Dauphiness was then 15 years of age, beaming with freshness, and appeared to all more than beautiful. Her eyes were mild, ber smile was lovely, her gait was acrial, and partook at once of the noble character of the princesses of her house, and of the graces of the French; and in this enchanting being, amid the splendour of gaiety, an indescribable but august serenity, and the somewhat proud position of the head and shoulders, marked the daughter of the Cæsars." portrait was drawn by the hand of friendship and of love; yet doubtless the original was fascinating.

Sometimes she suffered herself to be carried away by those transports of compassionate kindness which are not to be controlled either by rank, or by the customs which it establishes. A fire happened in the Place Louis XV. at the time of the nuptial entertainments, and she and the Dauphin sent their whole income for the year to the relief of the sufferers.

A very old peasant was wounded by the stag in the forest of Fontainbleau upon a hunting occasion; the Dauphiness jumped out of her calash, placed the peasant and his family in it, had them taken back to their cottage, and bestowed every assistance and attention upon them.

Several persons in her service

entered her room one evening, expecting no one there but the officer in waiting: the young princess was sitting by the side of a man considerably in years; she had placed near bim a bowl of water, and was binding up his hand (which was wounded) with her handkerchief, which she had torn up for the purpose. The old man, affected even to tears, left his august mistress to act as she thought proper. He had hurt himself in moving some heavy piece of furniture which the princess asked him for.

Had it been the good fortune of the queen to have been born in private life, she might indeed have been still a gay and thoughtless creature; but those warm, maternal, and domestic affections which existed in her bosom, would, in all probability, in time have made her such as might well be imitated: even through all the impediments of rank and of intrigue, the generous current burst forth, and bore down before it the cold barriers of etiquette and of pride. The station of a queen served only to heighten her character to that of an heroing; calm. constant, collected, yet a woman, and with a woman's weakness and A remarkable inimprudence. stance of this lady-like imprudence appears in the circumstances of her preparation for flight. She could not be content to go without buying a complete set of body linen for herself and for her children; and, notwithstanding the remonstrances, and assurances of

Madame

Madame Campan, who observed, that "a queen of France might find chemises any where," she exposed the whole plan by this unnecessary precaution to the utmost danger, and at last she completely ruined it, because she could not travel without a favourite travelling dressing-case, the removal of which discovered the whole.

The vivacity of her disposition could ill brook the absurdities of etiquette under the old regime; and of this etiquette she had the full enjoyment under the management of the Countess Noalles, to whom she had given the nick-name of Madame Etiquette.

"The princess's toilette was a mesterpiece of etiquette; every thing done on the occasion was in prescribed forms. Both the dame d'honneur, and the tirewoman, usually attended and officiated, assisted by the principal lady in waiting, and two inferior attendants. The tirewoman put on the petticost, and handed the gown to the queen. The dame d'honneur poured out the water for her hands, and put on her body-linen. When a princess of the royal family happened to be present while the queen was dressing, the dame d'honneur vielded to her the latter act of this office; but still did not yield it directly to the princess of the blood; in such a case, the dame d'honneur was accustomed to present the linen to the lady in waiting, who in her turn handed it to the princess of the blood. Each of these tadies observed those rules scrupulously as affecting their rights. One winter's day it happened, that the queen, who was entirely undressed, was going to put on her body-linen; I held it ready un-

folded for her; the dame d'honneur came in, slipped off her gown, and took it. A rustling was heard at the door, it was opened, and in came the Duchess d'Orleans; she took her gloves off and came forward to take the garment; but as it would have been wrong in the dame d'honneur to hand it to her, she gave it to me, and I handed it to the princess; a further noise—it was the Countess de Provence; the duchess handed her the linen. All this while the queen kept her arms crossed upon her bosom, and appeared to feel cold. Madame observed her uncomfortable situation, and merely laying down her handkerchief, without taking off her gloves, we put on the linen, and in so doing knocked the queen's cap off. The queen laughed to conceal her impatience, but not till she had muttered several times, 'How disagreeable!-how tiresome!""

" Madame de Noalles abounded in virtues; but etiquette was to her a sort of atmosphere; at the slightest derangement of the consecrated order, one would have thought she would have been stifled, and that the principles of life would forsake her frame. One day, I unintentionally threw this poor lady into a terrible agony: the queen was receiving, I know not whom -some persons just presented, I believe; the lady of honour, the queen's tirewoman, and the ladies of the bed-chamber, were behind the queen. I was near the throne with the two All was right; women on duty. at least I thought so. Suddenly I perceived the eyes of Madame de Noalles fixed on mine. made a sign with her head, and then

then raised her engineers to the top of her forehead, lowered them again, raised them again; then hegan to make little signs with her band. From all this pantomime I could easily perceive that something was not as it should be; and as I looked about on all sides to find what it was, the agitation of the counters kept increasing. The queen, who perceived all this, looked at me with a smile: I found means to approach her Majesty. who said to me in a whisper, 'Let down your lappets, or the countess will expire!' All this bustle arose from two unlucky pins, which fastened up my lappets, whilst the etiquette of costume said, 'Luppets kanging down J'"

Can it be wondered, that as Madame Campan relates, in the midst of such perpetual wearisomeness, the queen should long for the freedom of private life, or that she should have had a wish to introduce the simpler customs of the court of Vienna? Some remarkable instances are given of her self-command, and of the fascination of her manners, by which, with a word, she could change an enemy to a friend.

"As soon as the most violent jacobins had an opportunity of seeing the queen nearer hand, of speaking to her and of bearing her voice, they became her most zealous partisans; and even when she was in the prison of the Temple, several of those who had contributed to place her there, perished for having attempted to get her out again.

"On the morning of the 7th of October, the same women, who the day before surrounded the curriage of the august prisoners, for ever! Our good queen for ever!" riding on cannons, and uttering:

bled under the queen's windows upon the terrace of the castle, and desired to see her. Her majesty There are always, appeared. among mobs of this description. orators, that is to say, beings who have more assurance than the rest; a woman of this description setting up for counsellor, told her that she must now remove far from her all such courtiers as ruin kings, and that she must love the inhabitants of her good city, The queen answered, that she had loved them at Versailles, and would likewise love them at Paris. 'Yes, yes,' said another, 'but on the 14th of July you wanted to besiege the city and have it bombarded; and on the 6th October you wanted to fly to the frontiers.' The queen replied affably, that they had been told so and believed it, and that there lay the cause of the unhappiness of the people, and the best of kings. A third addressed a few words to her in German; the queen told her she did not understand it; and that she had become so entirely French as even to have forgotten her mother tongue. This declaration was answered by bravos, and clapping of bands; they then desired her to make a compact with them: 'Ah,' said she, 'how can I make a compact with you, since you bave no faith in that which my duty points out to me, and which I ought for my own happiness to respect?' They asked her for the ribbons and flowers out of her hat; her majesty unfastened them herself, and gave them; they were divided among the party, which for above half an hour cried out without ceasing, Marie Antoinette "An officer of the Parisian.

the most abusive language, assem- guard dared to speak insolently

to the queen in her own apartment, (when she was in custody there). M. Collot wished to make a complaint to M. de la Fayetta against him, and have him broken. The queen opposed it, and condescended to say a few words of explanation and kindness to the man; he instantly became one of her most devoted partisans."

"One of the most furious jacobins, who marched with these wretches, (i. c. a mob who were perading, and carrying among other disgusting emblems a gibbet, to which a dirty doll was suspended and the words Marie Antoinette d la lanterne! written beneath it,) stopped to give vent to a thousand imprecations against the queen. Her majesty asked her, whether she had ever seen She replied that she had not.-Whether she had done her any personal wrong. Her answer was the same; but, she added, 'it is you who have caused misery to the nation.'-- 'You have been told so,' added the queen; 'you are deceived: as the wife of the King of France and mother of the Dauphin, I am a Frenchwoman; I shall never see my own country again....I can be happy or unhapby only in France; I was happy when you loved me.' The fury began to weep, asked her pardon and said 'It was because I did not know you; I see that you are good.'"

How beautiful the mother and he wife appear in the following

anecdote.

"As it was apprehended (after the 13th of April, 1790) that an attempt would be made to carry off the king, M. de la Fayette promised to keep a good look out, and told Louis XVI. that he would give him notice by the discharge of a cannon from Henry the Fourth's battery upon the Pont Neuf. On the same night a few casual discharges of musquetry were beard from the terrace of the Tuileries. The king, deceived by the noise, flew to the queen's apartments; he did not find her in her room; he ran to the dauphin's room, where he found the queen holding her son in her arms. 'Madame,' said the king to her, 'I was seeking you, I have been uneasy about you." The queen, shewing her son, said to him, 'I was at my atation.'"

"The insurrection of the 5th and 6th of October, was directed against the queen in particular. The poissardes wore white aprons, which, they said, were intended to receive the bowels of Marie Antoinette, and that they would make cockades of them. The French mob have, upon all occssions, borne the palm of sanguinary cruelty and brutality, from that of every other country.

"The queen at two o'clock in the morning, went to bed and to sleep, being tired with the events of such a day; she herself feared no danger, but her women, being happily more apprehensive, probably saved her life : they called their femmes-de-chambre, and all four sat against her bed-room door. At half past four, they heard yells and discharges of fire arms, and ran to awaken her and get her out of bed; at that moment the sentinel, attacked by mob, with his face covered with blood, called out, 'Sere the queen, madame; they have come to assessinate her.' The terrified queen threw herself out of bed; they put a petticoat upon her without tying

it, and the two ladies conducted her to the Bull's eye. A door which led from the queen's toilet educet to that apartment, had never before been fastened but on What a dreadful moher side. ment !.. It was found to be secured on the other. They knocked repestedly with all their strength; a servant of one of the king's valets de chambre came opened it; the queen entered the king's chamber, but he was not there. Alarmed for the queen's life, he had gone down the corridors under the Bull's eye, by means of which he was accustomed to go to the queen's apartments without being under the necessity of crossing that room. He entered her majesty's room, and found no one there but some body guards who had taken refuge in it. The king, unwilling to expose their lives, told them to wait a few minutes, and afterwards sent to desire them to go to the Bull's eye. Madame de Tourzel, at that time governess of the children of France, had just taken madame and the dauphin to the king's apartments. oneen saw her children again. The reader must imagine this scene of tenderness and despair."

It was this moment, so unfit for the puspose, that calumny selected for the assertion of a circumstance, aimed at the reputation of the queen—that circumstance is well known, and we shall not mention it, but Marie Antoinette had been the butt of calumny from the moment of her entering France. Well might she say, when her attendants observed to her they feared she would be poisoned, that the assessin went a surer way than that to work: they aimed more

certain and more fatal blows by calumny.

"The army occupied the place d'armes, all the court-yards of the chateau, and the entrance to the avenue. They called for the queen to appear in the balcony: she came forward with madame There was a and the dauphin. cry of 'no children.' Was this with a view to deprive her of the interest she inspired, accompanied as she was by her young family: or did the leaders of the democrats hope that some madman would venture to aim a mortal blow at her person? This seemed to be her idea, for she sent away her children, and, with hands and eves raised towards heaven, advanced upon the balcony like a self-devoted victim.

"The mob demanded of the king to go to Paris. At one o'clock they set out-the King and Queen, the Dauphin and Madame, the king's daughter, Monsieur, Madame, Madame Elizabeth, and Madms. de Tourzel, were in the carriage; the Princess de Chimay and the ladies of the bedchamber for the week, the king's suite and servants followed in court carriages; a hundred deputies in carriages; and the bulk of the Parisian army. closed the procession. The poissardes went before and around the carriage of their majesties, crying We shall want no more bread, we have brought the baker, the baker's wife, and the little baker boy.' In the midst of this troop of canibals, the heads: of two murdered body guards were carried on poles. The monsters who made trophies of them, conceived the horrid idea of forcing a hairdresser of Sevres to dress them up, and powder their bloody locks. In the midet

of all the tumult, clamour, and singing, interrupted by frequest discharges of musquetry, which the hand of a bungler, or a monster, might so easily render fatal, the queen preserved the most courageous tranquillity of soul, and an air of nobility and inexpressible dignity."

It is not often we meet with a more perfect contrast of circumstances, than in the fortunes of Marie Antoinette. The animating spirit of the splendid enchantments of Versailles; a creature of light and gaiety, matchless in her beauty, playful in her wit; unreserved and unrestrained, without care and without thought; this aërial being, whose shoulder had never been touched by the yoke of adversity, -first pursued by slander, then ber ruin plotted. the object of perpetual insult, outraged by the mob, her hair bleached in one night by sorrow as with extreme age; her ears assailed by the most disgusting language; her heart broken by continued grief; the queen, the mother, and the woman, stung in every point, and at last, the victim of her cruel enemies.

" I still see in imagination," says Madame Campan, "and shall always see, that narrow cell at the Fouilians, hung with green paper, that wretched couch whence the dethroned queen stretched out her arms to us, saying, 'that our misfortunes, of which she was the cause, aggravated her own.' There. for the last time, I saw the tears, I heard the sobs of her, whom her high birth, the endowments of nature, and above all, the goodness of her heart, had seemed to destine for the ornament of a throne, and the happiness of her people."

How satisfying an answer does this firmness and constancy afford, to the numerous calumnies with which she has been assailed. She might be, and was imprudent:—being without care, she was also without thought; and unsuspectingly offered abundance of opportunities for men as malignant and artful as Soulavie or Rohan, to influence a blind mob to believe those calumnies, false as they were, and to offer her at every step an increase of insult, till at last they trampled her beneath their feet.

If we recur only to the story of the diamond necklace, how simple is Madame Campan's narrative, contrasted with that of the practised and cautious courtier.

Her marriage was the cause of all her misfortunes; from the beginning it was marked with painfulness. The constitutional coldness of the Dauphin, arising from disease, gave her for a long time domestic uneasiness; and his weakness and indecision, when he came to the crown, caused her misfortunes as a queen.

The affairs of France had been long coming to a crisis:--no one could bear the tyranay of the government; Louis XV. never hesitated to wound, for his gratification, the dearest and deepest feelings of the heart. Such was the history of Mademoiselle Tier-The king remarked her at celin. only nine years of age, as he had many other young persons, whom he had directed his confidential servant, Le Bel, to watch and to entrap for him; she was in the care of a nurse in the gardens of the Tuileries; the king spoke of her extraordinary beauty to Le Bel, who succeeded in procuring her from the nurse for a few louis. She was the daughter of

M.

M. de Tiercelin, a man of quality, who could not patiently endure an affront of this nature; he was, however, told, that his child was lost, and it would be best for him to submit to the sacrifice unless he wished to lose his liberty also. She was introduced at the palace as Mad. Boneval. The Duke de Choiscul afterwards became jealous of her influence over the king, and accused her father of intrigue. The father and daughter were, in consequence, confined separately in the Bastille.

Things could not long go on thus: Louis XVI, came to a throne tottering through the wickedness of his predecessors, and he was of all men one of the least likely to secure it by strength of mind, or firm decision of action. His embarkation in the American war has been often remarked for its imprudence: his view was certainly to injure England, not to extend republican principles; and the king lost no opportunity of showing his disapprobation of such principles, which he could not but perceive were gaining ground, even among those who are the support of an absolute monarchy, the military. queen was always opposed to interference in the American war; she treated the English nobility, upon the peace of 1785, with marked attention, and often laughed at the enthusiasm with which Franklin inspired the French: such, indeed, could not be agreeable either to her or the king.

Dr. Franklin appeared at court in the dress of an American cultivator. His hair straight and unpowdered, his round hat and brown cloth coat, formed a contrast with the laced and embroidered coats and powdered and perfumed heads of the courtiers This novelty turnof Versailles. ed the enthusiastic heads of the French women. Elegant entertainments were given him, at one of which Mad. Campan was present, when the most beautiful woman out of three hundred was selected to place a crown of laurel upon the white head of the American philosopher, and two kisses upon his cheeks. Even in the palace of Versailles, Franklin's medallion was sold under the king's eyes, in the exhibition of . The motto of Sevres porcelain. this medallion was--

"Eripuit celo felmen, sceptrumque tyrannis."

The king certainly evinced his sentiments in a jest he played upon the Countess Diana, who had entered warmly into the idolatry of the American delegate. He had a vase de nuit made at the Sevres manufactory, at the bottom of which was the medallion with its fashionable legend; and he sent it to the Countess as a new year's gift.

The Americans abroad and the ultras at home at last brought his majesty to his tremendous expiation of sins, generally not his own; and as if these gentry were not enough then (as they bid fair to be now) to ruin their master, the Empress Catherine of Russia was at the pains to write him a letter with her own hand, in which was this meek advice-" Kings ought to proceed in their career, undisturbed by the cries of the people, as the moon pursues her course unimpeded by the howling of dogs."

We shall not follow the events of the revolution which are generally so well known; but conclude with the following extracts.

"One of the things about which

the queen most desired to be satisfied, was the opinion of the famous Pitt. She would sometimes say to me: "I never pronounce the name of Pitt, but I feel death at my shoulder (I use her very words): that man is the mortal enemy of France; and he takes a dreadful revenge for the impolitic support given by the Cabinet of Versailles to the American insurgents. He wishes, by our destruction, to guarantee the maritime power of his country for ever, against the efforts made by the king to improve his marine power, and their happy re-He knows sults during the war. that it is not only the king's policy, but his private inclination, to be solicitous about his fleets; and that the most active step he has taken, during his whole reign, was to visit the port of Cherbourg. Pitt has served the cause of the French revolution from the first disturbances; he will perhaps serve it until its annihilation. I will endeavour to learn to what point he intends to lead us, and I am sending M ---- to London for that purpose. has been intimately connected with Pitt, and they have often had political conversations respecting the French government. I will get him to make him speak out, at least as far as such a man can speak out."

"Some time afterwards, the queen told me that her secret envoy had returned from London; and that all he had been able to wring from Pitt, whom he found alarmingly reserved, was, that he would not suffer the French monarchy to fall; that to suffer the revolutionary spirit to erect an organized republic in France,

would be a great error, as regarding the tranquillity of all Europe."
"Whenever," said she, "Pitt expressed himself upon the necessity of supporting a monarchy in France, he maintained the most profound silence upon what concerns the monarch. The result of these conversations is any thing but encouraging; but, even as to that monarchy, which he wishes to save, will he have means and strength to save it, if he suffers us to fall?"

Bad as affectation of any kind may be, that of republican rudeness is one of the worst. "Petion's republican rudeness was disgusting; he ate and drank in the king's berlin in a slovenly manner, throwing the bones of the fowls out through the window, at the risk of sending them even into the king's face; lifting up his glass when Madame Elizabeth poured him out wine, to show her that there was enough, without saying a word. Petion held the little Dauphin upon his knees, and amused himself with curling the beautiful light hair of the interesting child round his fingers; and as he spoke with much gesticulation, he pulled his locks hard enough to make the Dauphin cry 'Give me my son,' said the queen to him: 'he is accustomed to tenderness and delicacy, which render him little fit for such roughness.'"

Parliamentary Eloquence. Lord Chatham.—No person, in his external appearance, was ever more bountifully gifted by nature for an orator. In his look and his gestures,

<sup>2.—</sup>Reminiscences of Charles Butler, Esq. of Lincoln's Inn.

grace and dignity combined, but dignity presided; the "terrors of his beck, the lightning of his eye," were insufferable. His voice was both full and clear; his lowest whisper was distinctly heard, his middle tones were sweet, rich, and beautifully varied; when he elevated his voice to its highest pitch, the house was completely filled with the volume of the sound. effect was awful, except when he wished to cheer or animate; he spirit-stirring notes. then had which were perfectly irresistible. He frequently rose, on a sudden, from a very low to a very high key, but it seemed to be without effort. His diction was remarkably simple, but words were never chosen with greater care; he mentioned to a friend of the Reminiscent, that he had read twice from beginning to end, Bailey's Dictionary; and that he had perused some of Dr. Barrow's Sermons so often, as to know them by heart.

His sentiments, too, were apparently simple; but sentiments were never adopted or uttered with greater skill; he was often familiar, and even playful, but it was the familiarity and playfulness of condescension—the lion that The terridandled with the kid. ble, however, was his peculiar power; then the whole house sunk before him.—Still he was dignified; and wonderful as was his eloquence, it was attended with this most important effect, that it impressed every hearer with a conviction that there was something in him even fairer than his words; that the man was infinitely greater than the orator.—It was the manner, not the words, that did the wonder. This, however, used to escape the observation of

the hearers: they were quite blind to Lord Chatham's manner, and ascribed the whole to what he said. Judging of this by the effect it produced on them, they concluded that what he said was infinitely finer than it really was, or even than any words could be. This was one of the most marvellous qualities of his oratory.

One of the fairest specimens which we possess of his Lordship's oratory, is his speech, in 1766, for the repeal of the Stamp Act.

"Annuit, et metu totum tremefecit Olympum."

Virgil.

Most perhaps who read the report of this speech in Almon's Register, will wonder at the effect which it is known to have produced on the hearers; yet the report is tolerably exact, and exhibits, although faintly, its leading features. But they should have seen the look of ineffable contempt with which he surveyed the late Mr. Grenville, who sat within one of him, and should have heard him say with that look, "As to the late ministry, every capital measure they have taken, has been entirely wrong." They should also have beheld him, when, addressing himself to Mr. Grenville's successors, he said, "As to the present gentlemen, those, at least, whom I have in my eye," (looking at the bench on which Mr. Conway sat,) " I have no objection. I have never been made a sacrifice by any of Some of them have done me the honour to ask my poor opinion, before they would engage to repeal the act: they will do me the justice to own, I did advise them to engage to do it; but notwithstanding (for I love to

be explicit,) I cannot give them my confidence. Pardon me, gentlemen, (bowing to them,) confidence is a plant of slow growth." Those who remember the air of condescending protection with which the bow was made and the look given, when he spoke these words, will recollect how much they themselves, at the moment, were both delighted and awed, and what they themselves then conceived of the immeasurable superiority of the orator over every human being that surrounded him.—In the passages which we have cited, there is nothing which an ordinary speaker might not have said; it was the manner, and the manner only, which produced the effect.

3.—Private Correspondence of W. Cowper, Esq. with several of his most intimate friends. Now first published from the originals in the possession of his kinsman, John Johnson, LL.D. rector of Yaxham with Welborne, in Norfolk. 2 vols. 8vo.

Ir Cowper was not that master magician who could enchant the whole spirit, there is something about his character peculiarly interesting — natural brightness shadowed with the gloom of mental disease—a heart of feeling which was thus made the centreplace of perpetual pain, reminding one of an instrument, which, although out of tune, yet retains in its discords the sweetness of its perfect music.

The following he writes upon the subject of Mr. Newton having quitted Olney.

"The vicarage-house became a

melancholy object, as soon as Mr. Newton had left it; when you left it, it became more melancholy; now it is actually occupied by another family, even I cannot look at it without being shocked. As I walked in the garden this evening I saw the smoke issue from the studychimney, and said to myself, that used to be a sign that Mr. Newton was there: but it is so no longer. The walls of the house know nothing of the change that has taken place; the bolt of the chamber-door sounds just as it used to do; and when Mr. P- goes up-stairs, for aught that I know or ever shall know, the fall of his foot could hardly perhaps be distinguished from that of Mr. New-But Mr. Newton's foot will never be heard upon that staircase again. These reflections and such as these occurred to me upon the occasion; \* \* \* I were in a condition to leave Olney too, I certainly would not stay in it. It is no attachment to the place that binds me here, but an unfitness for every other. I lived in it once, but now I am buried in it, and have no business with the world on the outside of my sepulchre; my appearance would startle them, and theirs would be shocking to me."

How affecting is the following:

"If I had strength of mind, I have not strength of body for the task which, you say, some would impose upon me. I cannot bear much thinking. The meshes of that fine network, the brain, are composed of such mere spinners' threads in me, that when a long thought finds its way into them, it buzzes and twangs, and bustles about at such a rate as seems to

threaten

threaten the whole contexture.— No—I must needs refer it to you

again."

"My enigma will probably find you out, and you will find out my enigma, at some future time. I am not in a humour to transcribe it now. Indeed I wonder that a sportive thought should ever knock at the door of my intellects, and still more that it should gain admittance. It is as if Harlequin should intrude himself into a gloomy chamber where a corpse is deposited in state. His antic gesticulations would be unseasonable at any rate, but more especially so if they should distort the features of the mournful attendants into laughter. But the mind long wearied with the sameness of a dull, dreary prospect, will gladly fix its eyes on any thing that may make a little variety in its contemplation, though it were but a kitten playing with her tail."

Again, speaking of his poetic

studies:

"At this season of the year, and in this gloomy uncomfortable climate, it is no easy matter for the owner of a mind like mine, to divert it from sad subjects, and fix it upon such as may administer to its amusement. Poetry, above all things, is useful to me in this respect. While I am in pursuit of pretty images, or a pretty way of expressing them, I forget every thing that is irksome, and like a boy that plays truant, determine to avail myself of the present opportunity to be amused, and to put by the disagreeable recollection, that I must, after all, go home and be whipt again."

"There is nothing but this-

no occupation within my small sphere, poetry excepted—can do much toward diverting that train of melancholy thoughts, which, when I am not thus employed, are for ever pouring themselves in upon me."

The following is a singular mixture of the bright and the

shadowy:

"I do not at all doubt the truth of what you say, when you complain of that crowd of triffing thoughts that pester you without ceasing; but then you always have a serious thought standing at the door of your imagination, like a justice of the peace with the riot-act in his hand, ready to read it and disperse the mob. Here lies the difference between you and me. My thoughts are clad in a sober livery, for the most part as grave as that of a bishop's servants. They turn too upon spiritual subjects, but the tallest fellow and the loudest among them all, is he who is continually crying with a loud voice, Actum est de te, periisti. wish for more attention. I for less. Dissipation itself would be welcome to me, so it were not a vicious one; but however earnestly invited, it is coy and keeps at a distance. Yet with all this distressing gloom upon my mind, I experience, as you do, the slipperiness of the present hour, and the rapidity with which time escapes me. Every thing around us, and every thing which befals us, constitutes a variety, which, whether agreeable or otherwise, has still a thievish propensity, and steals from us days, months, and years, with such unparalleled address, that even while we say thev they are here, they are gone. From infancy to manhood is rather a tedious period, chiefly, I suppose, because at that time we act under the control of others, and are not suffered to have a will of our own; but thence downward into the vale of years, is such a declivity, that we have just an opportunity to reflect upon the steepness of it, and then find ourselves at the bottom."

There are few, whose history both personal and mental, is more fully known than that of Cowper, but we could not resist the temptation of giving the above extracts from these volumes of his Letters so full of sadness and of beauty. He often wrote with gaiety, but it was forced and unnatural to him, all easy as it appears; and of this he says, "he has played the antic in a state of dejection, to which others are utter strangers, and assumed an air of cheerfulness and vivacity, to which he was in reality a stranger."—The contemplation of the mental portrait of Cowper is at once a source of sympathy and of pain.

4.—Count Las Cases Journal of the Conversations of Napoleon, &c., with Historical Dictations to General Gourgaud and Count Montholon. 4 vols.

Whatever credit we may or may not give to the dictator of these volumes for fair unvarnished truth, their contents cannot fail to be interesting. In them Napoleon is avowedly telling his own tale, and defending himself; and we are at least enabled to see things under different glosses, although we may find nothing sufficiently plausible to make us alter our former opinions. It is not to be wondered at that a man, with a mind like the mind of Bonaparte, should have much to say for himself, even where least was expected. He needed defending by some one, and several of his principal agents have since followed his example of self-defence; but it may be apprehended the truth of history will not be much elicited by their apologies.

These volumes contain the sentiments of Bonaparte upon history, politics, public characters, account of his confinement at St. Helena, and his conversations upon indifferent subjects; they conclude with an account of his death.

Las Cases' account is particularly interesting. From his personal intimacy with Bonaparte he must necessarily have known more than any of the English writers who preceded him. He begins immediately after the battle of Waterloo.

The Count justly remarks, that we never commence the perusal of any history, without first wishing to know something of the character of its author. He therefore relates a few facts respecting his own past life. When the French Revolution broke out, Count Las Cases was a lieutenant-de-vaisseau, which corresponded with the rank of a field-officer in the line; but his rank opened the way to high professional prospects. Deprived, however, by the vices of the old political system, of a solid and finished education—being full of aristocratic prejudices, and prompted by his youth to generous resolves, he was among the first to hasten abroad and join the emigrant

emigrant princes. Having narrowly escaped being landed in the bay of Quiberon, he began to reflect on the horror of his situation. He changed his name. and, becoming a teacher, went through a second course of education, in attempting to assist that of others. After the treaty of Amiens, the amnesty of the First Consul allowed him to enter France, where he found his patrimony disposed of; but he devoted himself to literature, and, under a feigned name, published an historical work, which re-established his fortune. In process of time, he devoted himself to the new Sovereign of France. When the English invaded Flushing, he repaired as a volunteer to the Netherlands. He was nominated to the office of Chamberlain to the Emperor, and obtained a seat in the Council of State. Hence followed several confidential employments that were intrusted to him; and among these were two important missions to Holland and Illyria. At the siege of Paris, in 1814, he commanded a legion which acquired honours by its severe losses. He wished to have joined Napoleon at Fontainebleau, but could not reach him in time, and therefore passed a few months in England. Emperor's reappearance in France, he spontaneously repaired to him. He was present at the moment of his second abdication. About the selfishness or disinterestedness of all Las Cases's previous conduct, there may be a question; but from the date of the Emperor's second resignation, it would be hard to deny such a follower the praise of devotedness. He had been a Chamberlain of Napoleon's 1823.

household, and a member of his Council; yet was his person hardly known to the Emperor: a circumstance this, one would think, which at least bespeaks his subserviency to have been unobtrusive. After the day of Waterloo, the Emperor's fortune was like a sinking ship, that promised more perils than prize-money to those who should cling to it. Yet Las Cases did cling to it. He requested permission to participate his master's fate. you know," said Napoleon, "whither your offer may lead you?" --- "I care not," said Las Cases; " I have made no calculation about it"—and he lived to write the account of this transaction in St. Helena. Fidelity is a virtue that ennobles even a slave.

Las Cases's book is very desultory, describing in one page the Emperor's disgust at his bad coffee, and in the next page his plans for governing an empire. In a general view, however, the subject-matter may be divided into two heads-viz. that which regards Napoleon's history as an individual and an object of personal sympathy, and that which explains his public conduct and character through the medium of his reported conversations. the latter subject, as we have already remarked, the Memoirs are more full and methodical than Las Cases's work, so that we shall refer to the latter publication chiefly for its portraiture of Napoleon as a man and as an The following summary of his situation at Rochefort, immediately before his surrender to the English, is given by Las Cases as having been dictated by Napoleon himself:— " The

"The English squadron was not strong: there were two sloops of war off Bordeaux, they blockaded a French corvette, and gave chace to American vessels which sailed daily in great numbers.-At the Isle of Aix we had two frigates well armed; the Vulcan corvette, one of the largest vessels of its class, and a large brig lay in the roads: the whole of this force was blockaded by an Enghish seventy-four of the smallest class, and an indifferent sloop or There is not the least doubt that, by risking the sacrifice of one or two of our ships, we should have passed; but the senior captain was deficient in resolution, and refused to sail; the second in command was quite determined, and would have made the attempt: the former had probably received secret instructions from Fouché, who already openly betnayed the Emperor, and wanted to give him up. However that may be, there was nothing to be done by sea. The Emperor then landed at the Isle of Aix.

" Had the mission been confided to Admiral Werhuel," said Manoleon, "as was promised on our departure from Paris, it is probable he would have sailed." The officers and crews of both frigates were full of attachment and enthusiasm. The garrison of Aix was composed of fifteen hundred seamen, forming a very fine regiment; the officers were so indignant at the frigate not sailing, that they proposed to fit out two chasse-marées of fifteen The midshipmen tons each. wished to navigate them; but when on the point of putting this plan into execution, it was said there would be great difficulty in gaining the American coast without touching on some point of Spain or Portugal.

" Under these circumstances, the Emperor composed a species of council from amongst the individuals of his suite. Here it was represented that we could no longer calculate on the frigates or other armed vessels: that the chasse-marées held out no probable chance of success, and could only lead to capture by the English cruisers in the open ses, or to falling into the hands of the allies. Only two alternatives remained; that of marching towards the interior, once more to try the fate of arms; or that of seeking an asylum in England. To follow up the first, there were fifteen bundred seamen, full of zeal and willing to act: the commandant of the Island was an old officer of the army of Egypt, entirely devoted to Napoleon: the Emperor would have proceeded at the head of these to Rochefort, where the corps would have been increased by the garrison, which was also extremely well disposed. garrison of La Rochelle, composed of four battalions of federated troops, had offered their services: with these we might then have joined General Clausel, so firmly fixed at the head of the army at Bordeaux, or General Lamarque, who had performed prodigies with that of La Vendée; both these officers expected and wished to see Napoleon: it would have been exceedingly easy to maintain a civil war in the interior. But Paris was taken, and the Chambers had been dissolved; there were, besides, from five to six hundred thousand of the enemy's troops in France: a civil

war could therefore have no other result than leading to the destruction of all these generous men who were attached to Napo-This loss would have been severe and irreparable: it would have destroyed the future resources of the nation, without producing any other advantage than placing the Emperor in a position to treat and obtain stipulations favourable to his inte-But Napoleon had renounced sovereignty; he only wanted a tranquil asylum; he abhorred the thought of seeing all his friends perish to attain so trifling a result; he was equally averse to become the pretext for the provinces being ravaged; and above all, he did not wish to deprive the national party of its truest supports, which would sooner or later re-establish the honour and independence of France. Napoleon's only wish was to live as a private individual in future: America was the most proper place, and that of his choice. But even England, with its positive laws, might also answer; and it appeared, from the nature of my first interview with Captain Maitland, that the latter was empowered to convey the Emperor and suite to England; to be equitably treated. From this moment we were under the protection of British laws; and the people of England were too fond of glory to lose an opportunity which thus presented itself, and that ought to have formed the proudest page of their history. It was therefore resolved to surrender to English cruisers, as soon as Captain Maitland should positively declare his orders to receive us. On renewing the negotiation, he

clearly stated that he had the authority of his Government to receive the Emperor, if he would come on board the Bellerophon, and to convey himself as well as his suite to England. Napoleon went on board, not that he was constrained to it by events, since he could have remained in France: but because he wished to live as a private individual; would no longer meddle with public affairs; and had determined not to embroil those of France. He would. most assuredly, not have adopted this plan, had he suspected the unworthy treatment which was preparing for him, as every body will readily feel convinced. letter to the Prince Regent fully explains his confidence and persuasion on the subject. Captain Maitland, to whom it was officially communicated, before the Emperor embarked on board his ship; having made no remarks on the above document, had, by this circumstance alone, recognised and sanctioned the sentiments it contained."

When the first rumours of their destination reached the fugitives: "Some person whispered to me." says Las Cases, "that the ships were to receive us in the course of the night and to sail for St. Helena. Never can I portray the effect of these terrible words. A cold sweat overspread my whole frame. Unpitying executioners had seized me; I was torn from all that attached me to life. It was like the struggle of a soul that sought to disengage itself from its earthly habitation. turned my hair grey.-Fortunately, the crisis was short; and, as it happened, the mind came forth triumphant." The Emperor, how-. ever, he says, to whom he read all the newspapers, did not betray any decrease of composure. would not at first believe that he was to be sent to St. Helena. When Sir Charles Bunbury and Lord Keith came to announce his fate to him, they were admitted alone; and it is known that he protested against the sentence. A day or two afterwards, whilst he was conversing with Las Cases, Madame Bertrand, without having been called, and even without announcing her name, rushed into the cabin, and in a frantic manner intreated Napoleon not to go to St. Helena, nor take her husband But, observing the with him. astonishment, coolness, and calm answer of Napoleon, she ran out as precipitately as she had entered. "The Emperor, still surprised, turned to me and said, 'Can you comprehend all this? is she not mad?' In a moment after she attempted to throw herself overboard." In a subsequent conversation with Las Cases, Napoleon, though calm, seemed affected and absent, and hinted at the facility with which he could escape from existence, and save his friends the sacrifice of following him into banishment His friend, of course. opposed the suggestion. what shall we do in that desolate place?" said the Emperor. " Sire," said Las Cases, " we will live on the past."—" Be it so," rejoined Napoleon: " we will write our memoirs; for occupation is the scythe of Time;" and he re-assumed an air of ease, and even gaiety. We quote our author's description of his mode of living on board the Northumberland. " The Emperor breakfasted in his own cabin at irregular hours. We

(his attendants) took our breakfast at ten o'clock, in the French style, while the English continued to breakfast in their own way at eight. The Emperor sent for one of us every morning to know what was going on, the distance run, the state of the wind, and other particulars connected with our progress. He read a great deal; dressed towards four o'clock, and then came into the general cabin: here he played at chess with one of the party. At five o'clock, the Admiral, having come out of his cabin a few minutes before, announced that dinner was ready. It is well known that Napoleon was scarcely ever more than fifteen minutes at his dinner. Here the courses alone occupied from an hour to an hour and a half: this was to him a most serious annoyance, though he never mentioned it; his features, his manner and gestures, always evinced perfect indifference. Neither the new system of cookery, nor the difference or quality of the dishes, ever met with his censure or approbation. He was attended by his two valets, who stood behind his chair. At first the Admiral was in the habit of offering to help the Emperor; but the acknowledgment of Napoleon was expressed so coldly, that this practice was discontinued. The Admiral continued very attentive, but thenceforth only pointed out to the servants what was preferable. They alone attended to these matters, to which the Emperor seemed totally indifferent. neither seeming to seek or notice He was generally any thing. silent, remaining in the midst of conversation as if totally unacquainted with the language, though

it was French. If he spoke, it was to ask some technical or scientific question, and to address a few words to those whom the Admiral asked occasionally to dinner. \* \* \* \* The Emperor always rose from table long before the rest of the company. The Grand Marshal and I always followed him to the quarter-deck, where I was frequently left alone with him, as General Bertrand had often to attend his wife, who suffered excessively from seasickness. \*\*\* After he had taken eight or nine turns the whole length of the deck, would seat himself on the second gun from the gangway, on the larboard side. The midshipmen soon observed this habitual predilection, so that the cannon was thenceforth called the Emperor's The game of chess, we are farther told, was one of his amusements on the voyage. Emperor was but an indifferent player. There was one very good chess-player on board, however, whom the Emperor always beat. He was shrewd enough to perceive that the victory was vielded to him from politeness; and winking his eye, asked how it happened that he lost with inferior players, and always gained with him whom nobody else could beat. The midshipmen, our author says, behaved to Napoleon with a delicacy and respect which touched his feelings. When an unusual bustle occurred on deck, they crowded round him that he might not be incommoded. Early in the voyage, Napoleon began to dictate his Memoirs to Las Cases, and thus regularly he employed his mornings on board the Northumberland.

On the 14th of October they came in sight of the Island of St. Helena, but they lay-to all night:

"About seventy days after our departure from England, and an hundred and ten after our departure from Paris, we cast anchor about noon (on the 15th).

"The Emperor, contrary to custom, dressed early and went upon deck; he went forward on the gangway to view the island. We beheld a kind of village surrounded by numerous barren and naked hills towering to the clouds. Every platform, every aperture, the brow of every hill, was planted with cannon. The Emperor viewed the prospect through his glass. I stood behind him. My eyes were constantly fixed on his countenance, in which I could perceive no change; and yet he saw before him, perhaps, his perpetual prison!—perhaps, his grave! ..... How much, then, remained for me to feel and to witness!

"The Emperor soon left the deck. He desired me to come to him, and we proceeded to our usual occupation.

"The Admiral, who had gone ashore very early, returned about six o'clock, much fatigued. had been walking about various parts of the island, and at length thought he had found a habitation that would suit us. The place, however, stood in need of repairs which might occupy two months. We had now been confined to our wooden dungeon for nearly three months; and the precise instructions of the ministers were, that we should be detained there until our prison on shore was ready The Admiral. for our reception. to do him justice, was incapable

of such barbarity; he informed us, at the same time betraying a sort of inward satisfaction, that he would take upon himself the responsibility of putting us ashore

next day."

The first night they were lodged in the inn or hotel of the petty Next day the Emperor, accompanied by the Admiral, visited Longwood, the spot intended for his residence, when its habitation should be repaired. luctant to return to the inn, where crowds of persons had annoyed him by assembling beneath his windows, Napoleon took up his abode for a time at the pavilion or summer-house attached to the villa of Mr. Balcombe, a merchant Already he had of the Island, become so much interested in his work on his Campaigns of Italy, that he could not suspend it. Whilst his two valets-de-chambre were bustling about to prepare his hed, the Emperor took a fancy to walk a little; but there was no level ground on any side of the payilion, which was surrounded by huge pieces of stone and "He took my arm," says Las Cases, "and began to converse in a cheerful strain. Night was advancing, profound solitude and undisturbed silence prevailed on every side; I was in this desert tëte-q-tëte and enjoying familiar conversation with the man who had ruled the world. What were my feelings!" To our obtuse taste we must own that this old French nobleman often appears to be a very abject admirer of the pomp and circumstance of power—but in this case we cannot but sympathise with his heart being overpowered by the awful contrast in his master's fate, when

he compared him thus vituated, with the potentate whose presence at the Tuileries had been approached with anxious dread by ambassadors, princes, and even kings. Next morning the remains of yesterday's dinner were brought to Napoleon for breakfast; at which, according to our author, he had neither table-cloth nor plates. He proceeded, howeyer, to his dictation, and afterwards went out to examine his new dominion, in the garden of which he met with Mr. Balcombe's two daughters, girls about fourteen or fifteen, who presented the . Emperor with flowers, and overwhelmed him with ridiculous " We have been to a questions. masked ball," said Napoleon, when the girls retired. For several days our diarist still complains of the table remaining without a cloth. The breakfast continued to be brought from town, and consisted of only two or three wretched dishes. Coffee was almost a necessary of life to the Emperor, but here it proved so bad that, on tasting it, he thought himself poisoned. "St. Helena," he continues, "is a true Siberia; the only difference is its limited extent, and climate being warm instead of cold. The Emperor Napoleon now occupies a wretched havel a few feet square, upprovided with furniture, and without either shutters or curtains to the windows; he is abliged to go out when it is necessary to have this one apartment cleaned. His meals are brought to him from a distance, as if he were a criminal in a dungeon: the bread and wine, water, butter, oil, and other articles, are scarcely fit for use. A bath, which is so neces-

sary to the Emperor's health, is not to be had; and he is deprived of the exercise of riding on horseback." It is clear that the stomachs of the poor exiles were not likely to be disposed to perfect candour in judging of the viands that were set before them; and in judging of coffee, and bread and butter, &c. as in other matters of taste, there is no estimating the force of prejudice. Napoleon spoke in these terms of the conduct of the Sovereigns of Europe towards him :- " I entered their capitals victorious, and, had I cherished such sentiments, what would have become of them? They styled me their brother; and I had become so by the choice of the people, the sanction of victory, the character of religion. and the alliances of their policy and their blood. Do they imagine that the good sense of nations is blind to their conduct? What do they expect from it? At all events, make your complaints, gentlemen; let indignant Europe hear them. Complaints from me would be beneath my dignity and my character. must command, or be silent."

On the Toth of December the exiles were removed to their newly-finished habitation at Longwood. Past events had created a coolness between the Emperor and the Admiral, but they met on this occasion, and for the present behaved as if reconciled. The place is thus described:

"The difference of the temperature between this place and the valley where we landed, is marked by a variation of at least ten degrees of the English thermometer. Longwood stands on a level height, which is tolerably

extensive on the eastern side, and pretty near the coast. Continual, and frequently violent gales, always blowing in the same quarter, sweep the surface of the ground. The sun, though it rarely appears, nevertheless exercises its influence on the atmosphere, which is apt to produce disorders of the liver. if due precaution be not observed. Heavy and sudden falls of rain complete the impossibility of distinguishing any regular season. But there is no regular course of seasons at Longwood. The whole year presents a continuance of wind, clouds, and rain; and the temperature is of that mild and monotonous kind, which, perhaps, after all, is rather conducive to ennui than disease. standing the abundant rains, the grass rapidly disappears, being either nipped by the wind, or withered by the heat. The water, which is conveyed hither by a conduit, is so unwholesome that the Deputy Governor, when he lived at Longwood, never suffered it to be used in his family until it had been boiled; and we are obliged to do the same. etrees which, at a distance, impart a smiling aspect to the scene, are merely gum-trees-a wretched kind of shrub, affording no shade. On one hand, the horizon is bounded by the vast ocean: but the rest of the scene presents only a mass of huge burren rocks, deep gulfs, and desolate valleys; and in the distance appear the green and misty chain of mountains. above which towers Diana's Peak. In short, Longwood can be pleasing only to the traveller after the fatigues of a long voyage, for whom the sight of any land is a cheering prospect. Arriving at SaintSaint-Helena on a fine day, he may, perhaps, be struck with the singularity of the objects which suddenly present themselves, and may, perhaps, exclaim, 'How beautiful!' but his visit is momentary; and what pain does not his hasty admiration cause to the unhappy captives who are doomed to pass their lives at Saint-Helena!

"Workmen had been constantly employed for two months in preparing Longwood for our reception; the result of their labours, however, amounted to little. The entrance to the house was through a room which had just been built, and which was intended to answer the double purpose of an ante-chamber and a This apartment dining-room. led to another, which was made the drawing-room; beyond this was a third room, running in a cross direction and very dark. This was intended to be the depository of the Emperor's maps and books; but it was afterwards converted into the dining-room. The Emperor's chamber opened into this apartment on the right-This chamber was hand side. divided into two equal parts, forming the Emperor's cabinet and sleeping-room; a little external gallery served for a bathing-room. Opposite the Emperor's chamber, at the other extremity of the building, were the apartments of Madame de Montholon, her husband, and her son, which have since been used as the Emperor's library. Detached from this part of the house, was a little square room on the groundfloor contiguous to the kitchen, which was assigned to me. son was obliged to enter his room

through a trap-door and by the help of a ladder; it was nothing but a loft, and scarcely afforded room for his bed. Our windows and beds were without curtains. The few articles of furniture which were in our apartments had evidently been obtained from the inhabitants of the island, who, doubtless, readily seized the opportunity of disposing of them to advantage for the sake of supplying themselves with better.

"The Grand Marshal with his wife and children had been left at the distance of two miles behind us, in a place which even here is denominated a hut (Hut's-gate). General Gourgaud slept under a tent, as did also the Doctor (Dr. O'Meara of the Northumberland) and the officer commanding our guard, till such time as their apartments should be ready, which the crew of the Northumberland were rapidly preparing.

"We were surrounded by a kind of garden; but owing to the little attention which we had it in our power to bestow on its cultivation, joined to the want of water and the nature of the climate, it was a garden only by name. In front, and separated from us by a tolerably deep ravine, was encamped the fifty-third regiment, different parties of which were posted on the neighbouring heights.—Such was our new abode."

The situation of the captives was undoubtedly ameliorated, in some respects, by their removal to Longwood; but their complaints every now and then powerfully break out. The spot of Longwood was one of the least healthy on an unhealthy island. Las Cases confesses also that the

Emperor's

Emperor's suite were not without their jealousies and divisions among themselves. A common principle had brought them together, but still their companionship was not the result of any personal choice of one another as friends. The gloom of these complaints is very agreeably relieved by some anecdotes which our diarist gives of Napoleon, though they would be insignificant if they regarded a less important personage, or any one placed in less extraordinary circumstances. Altogether he must be allowed to have behaved very well, and we see his force of character breaking out into vivacity at the time when his constitution had begun to sink towards its last decline. One evening, when at cards, the Emperor told Las Cases that Madame Las Cases was certainly at that moment at the Opera: it was Tuesday-it was nine p. m. in Paris. "No," said the other, "she is too good a wife to be at the theatre whilst I am here."-" Spoken like a true husband," said the Emperor, " ever confident and credulous." Then turning to General Gourgaud, he joked in the like manner about his mother and sisters: Gourgaud's eyes filled with tears. Napoleon in a moment repressed his pleasantry, and said, "How barbarous I am to sport with such feelings!"

In the midst of their rides they used to fix on a regular restingplace in the middle of the valley. There, surrounded by desert rocks, they saw a girl of fifteen or sixteen with a charming countenance; they were captivated by her the first day in her daily and poor costume. Next day

she had been at her toilette, and the pretty blossom of the fields appeared only an ordinary garden-flower; nevertheless they always stopped at her dwelling, and she always approached some paces to catch the few sentences which the Emperor either addressed, or caused to be translated, to her as he passed by. Napoleon's admiration of her brought her good fortune. It drew attention to her, and she has since become the wife of a rich East India captain.

Of all the visits that were paid to Napoleon from enthusiastic curiosity, that of the English sailor who twice eluded the obstacles of sentinels and the dangers of severe prohibition, in order to gratify himself with a sight of him, is perhaps the most interesting. Another of our tars found means to approach him, and conveyed, through Las Cases, his good wishes to Napoleon. "The Emperor, "he says, "evinced some emotion at the salutation of both of those simple men, so strongly did their countenances, accents, and gestures, bear the stamp of truth." A drunken corporal, who mistook his countersign, and met them in one of their rides, gave them a different expression of British courtesy: he levelled his piece and ran up to them out of breath. General Gourgaud collared and endeavoured to secure him, but he effected his escape. Napoleon began to study English. had a quick understanding," says our author, "but a very bad memory, and was constantly confounding one thing with another." Another obstacle to his progress (in pronunciation, at least,) was

that

that he would not pronounce the vowels in the English way; he insisted on pronouncing quite at his own discretion, and when a word had passed his lips, he would never give it a different sound. His teacher, Las Cases, found it best to have the prudence and patience to let this pass. What he spoke as English, his tutor confesses, was a new language, intelligible only to themselves; but he says, that Napoleon could make himself understood in writ-

ing English.

Our diarist not only endeavours to delineate the soul of Napoleon in the reports of his conversation, but zives us, in the volumes before us, something like a formal synopsis of his early life. uncle of the hero's family, Lucien, the Archdeacon of Ajaccio, seems to have been its principal protector, to have retrieved the state of their affairs, which the imprudence of Napoleon's father had deranged, and to have supplied to them the place of a parent. Napoleon's mother, according to our author, was an uncommonly beautiful and high-spirited woman: she accompanied her husband in the patriotic war of the Corsicans, and followed him, in sight of the field of warfare, whilst she was pregnant with Napoleon. At the age of ten, Napoleon was sent to the military school of Brienne, where the Corsican pronunciation of his name, Napolioné, got him the nickname of "Straw in the Nose." Little Straw in the Nose, however, soon distinguished himself as the best mathematician in the school. Brienne. Las Cases insists, that, contrary to all the lies and libels which have been published against

him, he was in his boyhood mild and gentle: at the age of puberty, Napoleon himself confesses that he became morose and reserved. A decided character he certainly early shewed himself to be. General Pichegru was his quartermaster and tutor in arithmetic at this school. Napoleon afterwards little more about recollected Pichegru, than that he was a tall man with a red face. Pichegra remembered his pupil much better; when he joined the royalists at a distant period, he was asked, " if he thought General Bonaparte could be got over to the cause?" "No," he replied, "you will lose your time in attempting it. knew him when a boy, and I am certain that his temper is inflexi-In 1783, Napoleon was removed to the military school of Paris, owing to the high opinion which Keralio, one of the visitants of the public schools, entertained of him; though the monks of the Brienne academy proposed detaining him another year, saying that the lad's education was backward in every thing except mathematics. Las Cases tells us what a prodigy the generality of the Professors of the military school at Paris remembered Napoleon to have been. This was to be expected: they were all naturally anxious to prove that they had possessed discernment, and accordingly the Professor of Belles Lettres declared, that the amplifications in Napoleon's themes were like the flaming granites of a volcano. A heavy German teacher, of the name of Bauer, was so unfortunate as to commit himself beforehand in delivering a contrary opinion: on being told one day that young Napoleon

Napoleon was attending his artillery class, he said, "I am glad he can attend to any thing." Bonaparte had possibly studied German with Mr. Bauer, as he studied English with Mons. Las Cases. Early testimonies of respect for his talents were, however, paid to him by the Abbé Raynal and by General Paolithe latter of whom used to say, that he "was one of Plutarch's men." Napoleon, on quitting the military school, went to join his regiment at Valence; he was allowed at this time twolve hundred francs a-year by his family, and was one of the two individuals in the regiment who could afford to keep a cabriolet. Valence he was introduced to a Madame du Colombier, whose acquaintance and the introductions to a superior rank of society which it procured him, the Emperor said had a great influence upon his fortune. He conceived an attachment for the daughter, Mademoiselle du Colombier, who was not insensible to his merits. It was the first love of both, and we are informed, that it was that kind of love which might be expected to arise at their age and with their education. "We were the most innocent creatures imaginable," the Emperor used to say: "we contrived little meetings together. I well remember one which took place on a Midsummer morning just as daylight began to dawn; it will scarcely be believed that all our happiness consisted in eating cherries together." In 1805, Napoleon, when about to be crowned King of Italy, saw her in his way through Lyons. She was then Madame de Bressieux.

granted a favour-which she solicited for her husband, and placed her in the situation of lady of honour to one of his sisters.

At an early age, we are not told the precise date, he gained a prize for an essay given in to the Academy of Lyons. After he became Emperor, Talleyrand presented to him the famous memorial, which he had procured from the archives of the Academy of Lyons. The Emperor threw it into the fire.

"Napoleon was in garrison at Valence when the revolution broke out. At that time it was a point of particular importance to cause the artillery officers to emigrate; and the officers, on their part, were very much divided in Napoleon, who was opinion. imbued with the notions of the age, possessing a natural instinct for great actions, and a passion for national glory, espoused the cause of the revolution; and his example influenced the majority of the regiment. He was an ardent patriot under the Constituent Assembly: but the Legislative Assembly marked a new period in his ideas and opinons.

"He was at Paris on the 21st of June, 1792, and witnessed the insurrection of the people of the Faubourgs, who traversed the garden of the Tuileries, and forced the palace. There were but six thousand men; a mere disorderly mob, whose language and dress proved them to belong to the very lowest class of society.

"Napoleon was also a witness of the events of the 10th of August, in which the assailants were neither higher in rank nor more formidable in number.

"In 1793, Napoleon was in Corsica, where he had a command in the National Guards. He opposed Paoli as soon as he was led to suspect that the veteran, to whom he had hitherto been so much attached, entertained the design of betraying the island to the English. Therefore it is not true, as has been generally reported, that Napoleon, or some of his family, were at one time in England, proposing to raise a Corsican regiment for the English service.

"The English and Paoli subdued the Corsican patriots, and burnt Ajaccio. The house of the Bonapartes was destroyed in the general conflagration, and the family were obliged to fly to the Continent. They fixed their abode at Marseilles, whence Napoleon proceeded to Paris. He arrived just at the moment when the federalists of Marseilles had surrendered Toulon to the English."

The biography of Napoleon soon becomes so intermixed with public affairs that he ceases to be a personal and private object of interest, and comes home to our imaginations solely and entirely as an historical personage. shall defer noticing some passages in Las Cases which regard his individual character, until we enter on the matter of those Memoirs which bring him forward wholly as a public man. He defends particular acts of Napoleon's career, which admit of no defence: hut the invasion of St. Domingo and the treatment of Toussaint were two bad concerns, the blot of which on Napoleon's memory no dew of panegyric will wash away. The reflections on Madame

de Staël might have been spared; she had her faults, but she had both a head and a heart to atone for them. She was any thing in the world but selfish, as Las Cases describes her; and we wish that she were alive at this moment, confident that she would rebuke his calumny, by forgiving it.

The Memoirs commence with Napoleon's first appearance as a general officer at Toulon; he was at that time twenty-four years of age, and even then shewed himself a man born to command. Though only commandant of the artillery, his intelligence took the lead in conducting and consumthating the capture of the place. Here his moral, no less than his military courage, was put to the test: the Committee of Public Safety had sent plans and instructions relative to the siege-Bonsparte regarded all their suggestions as useless. The popular societies and all the South of Francehad become impatient that Toulon was not taken; in Paris itself the Convention was beset with petitions, that the besiegers might be compelled to attack the place more vigorously, and representatives of the people actually arrived to fulfil this charge. It is not true, as the republican prints then pretended, that those representatives joined the besiegers, sword in hand, and contributed to the capture: they arrived only to witness the success of Bonaparte's plan, and were fain to disown a letter of blame which they had written upon the subject. Bonaparte's reputation was now sufficient to shield him against the terrors of a sanguinary executive government, which sent its generals with as little cere-

monv

mony to the scaffold as to the field. He was made Brigadier-general of artillery, and appointed to the command of that department (the artillery) in the army of Italy. From thence he succeeded to the chief command of the same army. In 1795, he quitted it for a short time, and repaired to Paris; he had been put on the list of generals who were intended to serve in the army of La Vendée; but he refused this appointment, and protested against it.\*

The full tide of Bonaparte's glory set in from his Italian campaign in 1796. At the beginning of that year the King of Sardinia, who, from his military and geographical position, had obtained the title of the Porter of the Alps, had fortresses, at the openings of all the passes leading into Piedmont. If it had been wished to penetrate into Italy by forcing the Alps, it would have been necessary to gain possession Now the of these fortresses. roads did not allow the carriage of a battering train; besides, the mountains are covered with snow during three quarters of the vear-which leaves but little time for besieging these places. A plan was therefore formed for turning all the Alps, and for entering Italy precisely at the point where these high mountains terminate, and where the Apennines begin. In penetrating into Italy in this direction, some hopes might be entertained of separating and intersecting the Sardinian and Austrian armies, because from that position Lombardy and Piedmont

were both menaced. It was as practicable to march on Milan as on Turin. The Piedmontese were interested in covering Turin, and the Austrians in defending Milan. The French army of Italy was about 30,000 strong, whilst more than 90,000 men were opposed to them. The character of the French troops was excellent; but cavalry was wretchedly mounted, and they were equally inferior in artillery. There were no means of transporting stores of any kind from the arsenals: all the draught-horses had perished for want. The penury of the French finances was so great, that all the efforts of Government could only furnish 2000 louis in specie to the military chest. order was issued for all the general officers to receive four louis The supply of bread a-piece. was uncertain; that of meat had long ceased. For means of conveyance, there remained only two hundred mules. It was impossible to think of transporting above twelve pieces of cannon. Bonaparte put the army in motion with the following address to them: "Soldiers! you are naked, ill-fedmuch is due tous: there is nothing to pay us with. The patience and courage you have shewn in the midst of these rocks are admirable—but they win you no glory. I come to lead you into the most fertile plains in the world: rich provinces, great cities, will be There you will in your power. have wealth, honour, and glory. Soldiers of Italy, can courage fail?" These words were addressed

There is a chasm in the Memoirs dictated to Gourgaud from the end of 1795 down to Bonaparte's return from Egypt in 1799. The engraving of the Maps and Plans having, it appears, prevented the editors from following a chronological order, we return for the present to Las Cases, who gives a full account of the Italian campaign of 1796.

addressed to his troops on the 29th of March. On the 28th of April he was within a day's march of Turin; had subdued the Sardinian government, and could thus address his troops—" You have in fifteen days gained six victories, taken twenty-one stand of colours, fifty-five pieces of cannon, and conquered the richest parts of Piedmont. Your services are equal to those of the Army of Holland and the Rhine. You were in want of every thing, but you have provided every thing. have gained battles without cannon — passed rivers bridges—made forced without shoes-bivouacked without brandy, and often without bread. None but Republican phalanxes could have done so. For this you have the thanks of your country." On the immediately succeeding operations of the French under Bonaparte in Italy, Las Cases is only able to give us. the fragments of a chapter. immediate information on the subject of the Italian campaign of 1797, we refer the reader to that part of the Memoir which is entitled Vol. I. of the Historical Miscellanies dictated to Count Montholon. Napoleon, according to Las Cases, declared, that he had returned from the campaigns of Italy with but 300,000 francs in his possession. "I might have easily," he said, "carried off ten or twelve millions. I expected on my return to receive some great national reward. bord was to have been given me, but the Directory set aside the idea. I had, however, transmitted to France at least fifty millions of francs for the service of the State."

The Expedition to Egypt is fully treated of in the first volume of Napoleon's Historical Miscellanies. Las Cases also enters upon the subject, about Napoleon's having either poisoned, or proposed to poison, the sick at Jaffa.

"The most absurd details, the most improbable circumstances, the most ridiculous episodes were invented, to give a colouring to this first falsehood. The story was circulated through Europe; malevolence seized it, and exaggerated its enormity; it was published in every newspaper; recorded in every book; and thenceforward was looked upon as an established fact: indignation was at its height, and clamour universal. have been vain to reason, or to attempt to stem the torrent, or to shew that no proofs of the fact had been adduced, and that the story contradicted itself. It would have been vain to bring forward opposite and incontrovertible evidence -the evidence of those very medical men who were said to have administered, or to have refused administer, the poison. would have been vain to expose the unreasonableness of accusing of inhumanity the man, who, but a short time before, had immortalized the hospitals of Jaffa by an act of the sublimest heroism: risking his own safety by solemnly touching the troops infected with the plague, to deceive and soothe the imaginations of the sick men. In vain might it have been urged that the idea of such a crime could not be affixed on him, who, when consulted by the medical officers as to the expediency of burning merely washing the clothes worn by the invalids, and being reminded of the enormous loss

attendant

attendant on the former measure, replied: -- Gentlemen. I came here to fix the attention and to recall the interests of Europe to the centre of the ancient world. and not with the view of amassing wealth.' In vain would it have been shewn that there could be me object, no motive whatever for this supposed crime. Had the French General any reason to suspect a design for corrupting bis invalids. and converting them into reinforcements against himself? Did he hope that this berbarous act would completely rid him of the infection? might have effected that object equally well by leaving his invahas to be overtaken by the enemy's troops, which would, moreover, have been the means of spreading the contagion among the latter. It would have been vain to shew that an unfeeling and selfish chief might have freed. bimself from all embarrassment by merely leaving the unfortunate men behind him: they would have been massacred, it is true: but no one would ever have thought of addressing a reproach to him.

"These and every other argument: would have been vain and useless, so powerful and infallible are the effects of falsehood and declamation when the passions of mankind are interested in their propagation. The imaginary crime was repeated by every mouth, was engraven on every heart, and to the common mass of mankind it will, perhaps, for ever continue a positive and incontrovertible fact.

"A circumstance, which will not a little surprise those who have yet to learn how little credit is due to public report, and which will also serve to shew the errors that may creep into history, is that Marshal Bertrand, who was himself with the army in Egypt, (though certainly in a rank which did not enable him to come into immediate contact with .the General-in-chief) firmly believed, up to the period of his residence at St. Helena, the story of poison having been administered to sixty invalide. The report was circulated and believed even in our army; therefore, what answer could be given to those who triunaphantly asserted, 'It is a fact, I assure you, I have it from officers who served in the French army at the time'? Nevertheless. the whole story is false. I have collected the following facts from the highest source, from the mouth of Napoleon himself.

"1st. That the invalids in question who were infected with the player, amounted, according to the report made to the General-in-chief, only to seven in number.

"2d. That it was not the General-in-chief, but a professional man, who, at the moment of the crisis, proposed the administering of opium.

"3d. That opium was not administered to a single individual:

"4th. That the retreat having: been effected slowly, a rear-guard was left behind in Jaffa for three days.

"5th. That on the departure of the rear-guard, the invalids were all dead, except one or two, who must have fallen into the hands of the English.

" N.B. since my return to Paris, having had opportunities of conversing with those whose situation and profession naturally rendered them the first actors in the scene—those whose testimony must be considered as official and authentic, I have had the curiosity to enquire into the most minute details, and the following is the result of my enquiries:—

"'The invalids under the care of the Surgeon-in-chief, that is to say, the wounded, were all, without exception, removed, with the help of the horses belonging to the staff, not excepting even those of the General-in-chief, who proceeded for a considerable distance on foot, like the rest of the army. These, therefore, are quite out of

the question.

" ' With regard to the rest of the invalids, about twenty in number, who were under the care of the Physician-in-chief, and who were in an absolutely desperate condition, totally unfit to be removed, while the enemy was advancing, it is very true that Napoleon asked the Physician-in-chief whether it would not be an act of humanity to administer opium to them. It is also true that the physician replied, his business was to cure. and not to kill; an answer which, as it seems to have reference to an order rather than to a subject of discussion, bas, perhaps, furnished a basis on which slander and falsehood might invent and propagate the fabrication which has since been circulated on this subject.

" Finally, the details which I have been able to collect, afford me the following incontestable

results :---

" 1st. That no order was given for the administering of opium to the sick.

"'2d. That there was not at

the period in question, in the medicine chest of the army, a single grain of opium for the use of the sick.

"" 3d. That even had the order been given, and had there been a supply of opium, temporary and local circumstances, which it would be tedious to enumerate here, would have rendered its execu-

tion impossible.

" 'The following circumstances have probably helped to occasion, and may, perhaps, in some degree excuse the mistake of those who have obstinately maintained the truth of the contrary facts. Some of our wounded men, who had been put on board ship, fell into the hands of the English. had been short of medicines of all kinds in the camp, and we had supplied the deficiency by compositions formed from indigenous trees and plants. The ptisans and other medicines had a horrible taste and appearance. prisoners, either for the purpose of exciting pity, or from having heard of the opium story, which the nature of the medicines might incline them to believe, told the English that they had miraculously escaped death, having had poison administered to them by their medical officers.' So much for the invalids under the care of the Surgeon-in-chief.

"Now for the others.—'The army unfortunately had, as Apothecary-in-chief, a wretch who had been allowed the use of five camels to convey from Cairo the quantity of medicines necessary for the expedition. This man was base enough to supply himself on his own account, instead of medicines, with sugar, coffee, wine, and other provisions, which

he afterwards sold at an enormous profit. On the discovery of the fraud, the indignation of the General-in-chief was without bounds, and the offender was condemned to be shot; but all the medical officers, who were so distinguished for their courage. and whose attentive care had rendered them so dear to the army, implored his pardon, alleging that the honour of the whole body would be compromised by his punishment; and thus the culprit escaped. Some time after, when the English took possession of Cairo, this man joined them, and made common cause with them; but, having attempted to renew some of his old offences, he was condemned to be hanged, and again escaped, by slandering the General-in-chief Bonaparte, of whom he invented a multitude of horrible stories, and by representing himself as the identical person who had, by the General's orders, administered opium to the soldiers infected with the plague. His pardon was the condition and the reward of his calumnies. This was doubtless the first source whence the story was derived, by those who were not induced to propagate it from malevolent motives.

"Time has, however, fully exposed this absurd calumny, as well as many others which have been applied in the same direction, and that with so great a rapidity, that, on revising my manuscript, I have been surprised at the importance I have attached to the refutation of a charge which no one would now dare to maintain. Still, I thought it best to preserve what I had written, as 1823.

a testimony of the impression of the moment; and if I have now added some farther details, it is because they happened to lie within my reach, and I thought it important to record them as historical facts."

During Bonaparte's absence in Egypt, it is well known how much France missed his military genius, and with what rapturous acclamations he was hailed on his return. No one who recollected the sensation produced by his sudden appearance at Frejus, like a spirit welcomed from another world, could be surprised at the celerity and triumph of his subsequent career on his His resumpreturn from Elba. tion of power at the former period, was altogether the more wonderful event of the two. He was at the former period still a young man. France, no doubt, required a stronger and regenerated government; but still it required unparalleled boldness, and a popularity among a nation of thirty millions, which not more than one or two individuals have ever obtained in the whole history of the world, to seize on the helm of authority. Though France was divided by factions, yet she still had men of pre-eminent talents either at the head of powerful parties, or singly sufficient have trampled down any ordinary usurper who should have dared to attempt suppressing party spirit. There was Roederer, eloquent and trusted for patriotism. There were Barras and Fouché, who had each great influence. There were, besides, a host of formidable politicians — Talleyrand, who alone had sagacity to have guided a kingdom in ordinary circumstances. There were Moreau, Bernadotte, Augereau, and others of high military name; and there was Sieyes, the cunning and reserved, whose talents were so esteemed by Mirabeau, that in a debate on a great subject, he once declared the silence of Sieyes to be a national calamity. It is quite obvious, however, that all these men, who in other circumstances would have been primary combatants for supreme power, dimmed their ineffectual ray, and bowed their heads, to the influence of Bonaparte, from the moment it was supposed that a change in the government was to be expected. He met with them separately; he heard their proposals; he committed himself to none of them. If he could be said to join any thing like a party, it was that of Sieyes; but until the moment that he was ready to strike the blow of usurpation, he kept them all in suspense, till he called them together on the 18th Brumaire, and produced one of the most important revolutions recorded in history. His influence over those around him seemed equally electric and irresistible, whether it put in motion the metaphysics of Sieyes, or the drumsticks that beat the charge on the Council of Five Hundred. We return to St. Helena.

The monotonous and melancholy existence of Napoleon and his fellow-exiles at St. Helena continued (if we may trust Las Cases) to be embittered with increased and unnecessary restrictions, unfeeling indignities, and penurious privations. The effects which their situation produced on the mind of one of the domestics had very nearly proved the cause of a

catastrophe that would have been calamitous to all parties.

"During dinner one day (says Las Cases) the Emperor, turning with a stern look to one of the servants in waiting, exclaimed, 'So, then, assassin, you resolved to kill the Governor! -Wretch !- If such a thought ever again enters your head, you will have to do with me; you will see how I shall behave to you.' And then addressing himself to us, he said, 'Gentlemen, Santini, there, who determined to kill the Governor. That rascal was about to involve us in a sad embarrassment. I found it necessary to exert all my authority, all my indignation, to restrain him. With the view of explaining this extraordinary transaction, it is necessary to observe, that Santini, who was formerly usher of the Emperor's cabinet, and whose extreme devotion had prompted him to follow his master and serve him-no matter, he said, in what capacity—was a Corsican of deep feeling and a warm imagina-Enraged at the Governor's bad usage, exasperated at the decline of the Emperor's health, impatient of the affronts he saw heaped upon him, and affected himself with a distracting melancholy, he had for some time done no work in the house, and under pretence of procuring some game for the Emperor's table, his employment seemed to be that of shooting in the neighbourhood. In a moment of confidence, he told his countryman Cypriani that he had formed the project, by means of his double-barrelled piece, of killing the Governor and then putting an end to himself-and all, said he, to rid the world

world of a monster. Cypriani, who knew his countryman's character, was shocked at his determination, and communicated it to several other servants. They all united in intreating him to lay aside his design: but their efforts, instead of mitigating, seemed to inflame his irritation. They resolved then to discover the project to the Emperor, who had him instantly brought before him-'And it was only,' he told me some time afterwards, 'by imperial, by pontifical authority, that I finally succeeded in making the scoundrel desist altogether from his project. Observe for a moment the fatal consequences he was about to produce. I should have also passed for the murderer, the assassin of the Governor, and in reality it would have been very difficult to destroy such an impression in the minds of a great number of people."

The most singular part of Napoleon's conversation, and the least instructive, is the developement of his plans with regard to the still projected invasion of England, which was to have been effected when the continent had been reduced and pacificated. His navy, the Emperor allowed, had suffered dreadfully; the greatest part of its seamen were prisoners in England, and his ports were blockaded by British fleets. had nevertheless ordered canals to be constructed in Brittany, in order to effect a communication between Brest and Bourdeaux, Rochefort, Nantes, Holland, Antwerp, and Cherbourg. He was desirous also of having wet-docks at Flushing. Finally, he projected near Boulogne, or on some spot along that coast, the

construction of a dike similar to that of Cherbourg; in fact, he was to have a full and free communication of ships from Antwerp to Brest. To obviate the want of seamen, he was to have conscripts trained in all the ports. who were to be first put on board a flotilla of light vessels in the Zuiderzee. As to ships of war, he calculated on building twenty or twenty-five every year: in less than ten years he expected to have two or three hundred sail of the line. The affairs of the Continept would, in the mean time, be brought to a termination. line of offensive and defensive naval operations was to extend from Cape Finisterre to the mouth of the Elbe. There were to be three great squadrons and as many armies for the invasion, together with smaller divisions for turning and outflanking the On the completion of enemy. his armaments, if the English. frightened for the safety of their island, should collect strength in front of their principal arsenals, the fleets of Brest. Cherbourg, and Antwerp, were to attack them, and the wings of his navy were to turn on the side of Ireland and Scotland. Were England, on the contrary, determined to oppose him in a great body, the struggle would be reduced to a decisive issue, of which France would have been at liberty to choose the time, place, and oppor-This battle in the air tunity. was what Napoleon used to call his battle of Actium. Profoundly as every reader of Napoleon's actions must admire his genius, one may certainly be excused for doubting if this project be not a dream of impossibilities.

assumptions for its basis! The Continent pacificated in ten years! Not even his conquest of Russia could have effected such pacification. There was an Antigallican spirit in Spain and Germany sufficient to have given employment to France for twenty years -a spirit of hostility that would have burst out in another manner. even if the events which occurred had not taken place. And then to speak of beating the mariners of England by conscripts trained in blockaded harbours! work, indeed, the latter would have made among his port-prentices, even if they had possessed the advantage of numbers. Our own suspicion is, that his demonstrations of this project were mere appeals to the national pride of the people whom he ruled, and that he had got by heart a jargon on the subject which it amused him to recite to M. Las Cases. His plan of canal communication between his harbours is however intelligible even to a Bourbon, and his scheme of preparing naval conscripts remains as practicable as ever. Let it not be said that we have delivered ourselves from the danger of the energies of Europe being combined against us; for Napoleon never could have formed a coalition more dangerous than the Holy Alliance. The powers of that coalition have, without the grandeur of his views, adopted whatever was lawless in his principles. The holy allies are substantially hostile, because we are a free people.

The utmost astonishment was produced in Napoleon's mind when he was first made acquainted with the sums expended in England on public charity. Las

Cases found him one morning reading an English work on the poor's rates. The account empoor's rates. braced millions of men and hundreds of millions of money. The Emperor was apprehensive that he had not read the work correctly, or that he had mistaken The thing, he said, the sense. seemed altogether impossible. He could not conceive by what vices and defects so many poor could be found in a country so opulent, so industrious, and so abundant in resources for labour as Eng-He was still less capable land. of comprehending by what prodigy the proprietors, overloaded with taxation, were also enabled to provide for the wants of such a multitude. He then demanded of Mons. Las Cases, if he had not been sent into the departments on a particular mission with regard to mendicity. Cases told him that he had the official report of his mission among the few papers he had preserved. He went for it. The Emperor glanced at it for a few minutes, and said, "Well, this in fact has no resemblance whatever to England." With respect to a mendicity establishment, which had been the special object of his mission, Las Cases told him that his intentions had been ill understood, and that the plan had been altogether unsuccessful. were a few departments, it is true, in which the care of the prefects had put an end to mendicity: but in general the case was otherwise: and our author remarks that it was found chiefly difficult to suppress mendicity in places where the clergy enjoyed superior wealth In Belgium, and power. instance, mendicants were seen

to derive honour from their trade, and boast of having followed it for several generations. This circumstance Napoleon attributed, and probably with justice, to so many saints being in the calendar, whose only apparent merit was mendicity. On this subject, however, Las Cases is prodigal of his praise to the humane dispositions of his countrymen. South, above all, and Languedoc, displayed great zeal and animation in the support of charitable institutions. The hospitals and alms-houses were every where numerous and well attended to. The foundlings had increased since the Revolution. This our author had at first ascribed to the corruption of the times; but he was desired to remark, and was convinced upon reflection, that the changes had resulted from a more honourable Formerly the foundlings had been so wretchedly taken care of, that only from seven to nine wretched sickly and diminutive orphans had survived, out of ten that were taken in. Whereas at present their food and cleanliness, and the care that is taken of them, preserve nearly the whole of them, and they grow up a fine race of children. The attention shewn to them gives rise to a singular abuse-mothers even in easy circumstances are tempted expose their infants; they afterwards apply at the hospital, and, under a charitable pretext, offer to bring up one themselves. It is their own which is restored to them, with the benefit of a small allowance.

χ.

ف

. 5"

:1

٠.

But of the French prisons he gives a most terrible picture pronouncing them the shame of

the provinces—absolute sinks of corruption, abominable intrench-Las Cases had formerly ments. visited (he says) certain prisons in England, and had indulged in a smile at the kind of luxury which he observed in them. there are no offences, he says, or even crimes, that would not be fully expiated by a mere residence in those prisons, to which people were sent only on accusation. In one of these, at Mount St. Michel, Las Cases found a woman, whose name he had forgot, but who had particularly attracted his attention.

" She had rather a pretty face, pleasing manners, and a modest deportment. She had been imprisoned fourteen years, having taken a very active part in the troubles of La Vendée, and constantly accompanied her husband. who was the chief of a battalion of insurgents, and whom she succeeded, after his death, in the command. The wretchedness she suffered, and the tears she shed, had sensibly impaired her charms. I assumed a severe air during the recital of her misfortunes, but it was put on for the purpose of concealing the emotions she excited. She had, by the kindness of her manners and her other qualifications, created a kind of empire over the vulgar and deprayed women that were She had devoted about her. herself to the care of the sick; the prison infirmary was intrusted to her, and she was beloved by every one.-With the exception of that woman, a few priests, and two or three old Chouan spies, the rest exhibited but a filthy compound of disgusting or extravagant depravity."

Among

Among his conversations with the Emperor, Las Cases repeats a very minute account which he gave Napoleon of the first assemblage of the French royalist emigrants at Coblentz, and of the follies, prejudices, and principles which distinguished that unfortunate body of men. The picture is drawn with great vivacity, and with all the apparent fidelity of an eye-witness; and though the chapter has no immediate relation to the hero of his journal, it is nevertheless a very amusing episode. At Coblentz was collected all that was illustrious belonging to the court in France, and all that was opulent and distinguished belonging to the provinces. The emigrants were thousands in number, consisting of every branch, uniform, and rank of the army;—they peopled the town, and overran the palace. Their daily assemblages about the persons of the princes, seemed like so many splendid festivals. court was most brilliant, and the princes were so effectually its sovereigns, that the poor Elector of Treves, whom they were eating up, and who was afterwards deprived of his possessions on their account, was eclipsed and lost in the midst of them, which induced a person to observe to him one day, either from simplicity or raillery, that among all those who thronged his palace he seemed the only stranger. On gala days, they paraded with arrogance, as it were, the whole lustre and dignity of their monarchy, and, above all, the superiority of their sovereign, and the elevation of their princes—His Majesty the King was the expression which they pompously used in the German circles to designate the King of France, for that was, or ought to be, in their opinion, his title in point of pre-eminence with respect to all Europe. Even at a later period, and during their greatest distress, an Austrian officer, after dinner, happened to say, that when he came from Vienna a marriage was talked of between Madame Royale (now Duchess d'Angouleme) and the Archduke Charles, who at that time enjoyed great celebrity. " But it is impossible," observed one of his French guests. " And why?" " Because it is not a suitable marriage for Madame." "How?" exclaimed the Austrian, seriously offended, and almost breathless; " The Archduke Charles not a suitable marriage for your princess!" "Oh no, Sir; -it would be but a garrison marriage for her." So highly wound up were their expectations, that the emigrants who were later in arriving were ill received. It was maintained that all merit on that score was at an end, that if all who came should be received in the same way, the whole of France would soon be on their side, and there would be no longer any person to punish. As a mark of the political principles that prevailed, the Prince de St. Maurice was chased from among the emigrants-for having belonged to the society of the friends of the negroes. The appearance of the Duke of Brunswick at Coblents, and the arrival of the King of Prussia at the head of his troops, were great subjects of joy and expectation for almost the whole of the emigration. There were a few persons, however, who had the discernment to perceive from

the beginning, how the affair would end. Among these was Monsieur de Cazalès, now an emigrant, who had filled France and Europe with the celebrity of his eloquence and courage in the national assembly. When his countrymen beheld with delight the Prussians, as they filed off through the streets of Coblentz, -" Foolish boys," he exclaimed, " you admire those troops and rejoice at their march. ought rather to shudder at it. For my own part, I should wish to see these soldiers, to the last man of them, plunged into the Unhappy are they who incite foreigners to invade their country. Oh, my friends, the French nobility will not survive this atrocity. They will have the affliction of expiring far from the places of their birth." The emigrants (he adds) might be estimated at 20 or 25,000 men under arms. Such a force, filled with ardour and devotion, fighting for its own interests and maintaining an understanding with the sympathetic elements of the interior, might have been capable of striking the decisive But the allies meant to do the work themselves, and they annihilated the emigrant army, by parcelling it out into different corps, and by making these prisoners, as it were, in the heart of the German troops. Their entrance into France soon dispelled all illusion about the dispositions of the main body of the French people, by whom they were execrated as traitors and patricides, instead of being welcomed as When they were deliverers. quartered at Verdun, Las Cases tells us that " some of his com-

rades and himself were lodged in a handsome house, but all the furniture and all the proprietors had disappeared, excepting two very pretty young ladies who put us in possession of it. This last circumstance seemed rather a favourable omen, and the royalist officers began to attempt ingratiating themselves with the females. 'Gentlemen,' said one of the two Amazons in rather a sharp tone, ' we have remained because we felt we had the courage to tell you face to face, that our lovers are in arms against you, and that they have our prayers at least as much as our hearts.' This was intelligible language," says our author, "we wished for no more of it, and even shifted our quarters to another house."

The Imperial Exile's conversation, of course, for the most part turns on his own military exploits. Among these, the account of his return from Elba is by far the most animated part of these volumes. The interest which it excites is indeed dramatic.

We take, at random, some insulated anecdotes which our author gives of Napoleon.

"During the Consulate, and even during the Empire, Napoleon used at public festivals to go out late at night for the purpose of seeing the shows and hearing the sentiments of the people.— He once went out in this way accompanied by Maria Louisa; and they both walked arm in arm on the Boulevards, highly amused at seeing their Majesties the Emperor and Empress, and all the grandees of the court, represented in the magic lanterns.

"During the Consulate, Napoleon was once standing in front of the Hotel de la Marine, viewing a public illumination. Beside him was a lady, who to all appearance had formerly moved in a distinguished sphere, accompanied by her daughter, a very pretty girl, to whom she was pointing out all the persons of note, as they passed to and fro in Calling her the apartments. daughter's attention to a certain individual, she said:—' Remind me to go and pay my respects to We ought to do him some day. so, for he has rendered us great service.'- But, mother,' replied the young lady, 'I did not know that we were expected to shew gratitude to such people. thought they were too happy in being able to oblige persons of our quality.'- Certainly,' said the Emperor, 'La Bruyère would have turned this incident to good account.'

"Napoleon sometimes went out in disguise early in the morning, traversing the streets of the capital alone, and mingling with the labouring classes of the people, with whose condition and sentiments he wished to make himself acquainted. In the Council of State I have often heard him advise the Prefect of Police to adopt this plan. He called it the Caliph system of police, and said he esteemed it to be the best.

"On his return from the disastrous campaigns of Moscow and Leipsic, Napoleon, in order to maintain the appearance of confidence, frequently appeared amidst the multitude with scarcely any attendants. He visited the market-places, the faubourgs, and all the populous districts of the capital, conversing familiarly

with the people; and he was every where received and treated with respect.

"One day, at La Halle, a woman with whom he had been holding a little dialogue, bluntly told him he ought to make peace. 'Good woman,' replied the Emperor, 'sell your herbs, and leave me to settle my affairs. Let every one attend to his own calling.' The bystanders laughed, and applauded him.

"On another occasion, at the Faubourg Saint-Antoine, when surrounded by an immense concourse of people, whom he was treating very condescendingly, some one asked whether affairs were really as bad as they were represented to be. ' Why, certainly,' replied the Emperor, 'I cannot say that things are going on very well.'- But what will be the end of this?'-' Heaven knows!'-- Will the enemy enter France?'-- 'Very possibly; and he may even march to Paris if you do not assist me. I have not a million of arms. I cannot do all by my own individual efforts. - We will support you, ex-claimed a number of voices. 'Then I shall beat the enemy, and preserve the glory of France.' - But what must we do?'- You must enlist and fight.'-- 'We will,' said one of the crowd: 'but we must make a few conditions!'— 'What are they?'---'We will not pass the frontier.'- You shall not be required to do so.'-' We wish to serve in the guards,' said another.—' You shall do so.' The air instantly resounded with acclamations. Registers were immediately opened, and two thousand men enlisted in the course Napoleon returned ' of the day.

to the Tuileries; and, as he entered the *Place Carousel* on horse-back, surrounded by the multitude, whose acclamations rent the air, it was supposed that an insurrection had broken out, and the gates were about to be closed.

"On his return from the Island of Elba, the Emperor made another visit to the Faubourg Saint-Antoine, where he was received with equal enthusiasm, and conducted back to the palace in a similar manner. As he passed through the Faubourg Saint-Germain, the multitude who escorted him halted before the principal hotels, and manifested their disapprobation by angry The Emwords and gestures. peror observed that he had scarcely ever been placed in so delicate a situation. ' How many evils might have ensued,' said he, ' had a single stone been thrown by the mob. Had a single imprudent word, or even an equivocal look, escaped me, the whole Faubourg might have been destroyed; and I am convinced that its preservation was to be attributed wholly to my presence of mind, and the respect which the multitude entertained for me.' "

We conclude with quoting a passage from the melancholy description of the Great Captive's situation, which Las Cases states on the eve of his own

departure.

"During this period the Emperor's health has been constantly and considerably declining; his body, which was thought so robust, which had endured so many toils, and withstood so much fatigue, supported by victory and glory, was now bending under the weight of infirmities prematurely

brought on by the injustice of men. Almost every day he is attacked by some new indisposition; fever, swelled face, symptoms of scurvy, constant colds: his features are altered, his gait becomes heavy, his legs swelled, &c. . . . . Our hearts were torn in seeing him thus hastening towards infallible destruction; all our cares are in vain.

"He had long since given up riding on horseback, and by degrees, also, he almost entirely relinguished his rides in the ca-Even walking became a rare occurrence, and he was thus nearly reduced to a strict seclusion in his apartments. He no longer applied to any regular or continued occupation; he seldom dictated to us, and only upon subjects that were merely the fancy of the moment. He spent the greatest part of the day alone in his room, busied in turning over a few books, or rather doing nothing. Let those who have formed a due estimate of the power of his faculties, appreciate the strength of mind required to enable him to bear, with equanimity, the intolerable burthen of a life so wearisome and monotonous; for, in our presence, he always exhibited the same serenity of countenance and equality of temper; his mind appeared equally unembarrassed; his conversation offered the same lively turns of expression, and he was sometimes even inclined to mirth and humour; but, in the privacy of intimate intercourse, it was easy to perceive that he no longer thought of the future, meditated on the past, or cared about the present; he merely yielded a passive obedience to the physical laws laws of Nature, and, thoroughly disgusted with life, he perhaps secretly sighed for the moment which was to put an end to it.

"Such was the state of affairs when I was forcibly removed from Longwood; for that period approaches — it is not far distant."

One of the first great events recorded in the volumes dictated to Gourgaud and Montholon, is the Revolution which placed Napoleon at the head of the French government—the celebrated scene of the 18th and 19th Brumaire. It is given in that minute detail which always imparts so much light and interest to the narrative

of a great transaction.

He was in Egypt when information of the increasing inefficiency and unpopularity of the existing government reached him. The men whom the accidents of the Revolution had called to rule the affairs of France were distrustful of each other, and had lost all public confidence and respect. The French people felt that they were misgoverned, and were prepared by that impression, and by their recent familiarity with innovations, for any change that should promise a more effectual consolidation and management of the national resources. Under these circumstance Napoleon, confiding in his talents and in the influence of his fame, formed the hardy project of crushing the factions that agitated the country, and of raising himself upon their ruins to the summit of his ambition. He consigned the command of the Egyptian expedition to Kleber, and repaired to France. His unexpected arrival was hailed with demonstrations of general joy. By the

time he had reached the capital, he had seen enough to satisfy him that what he projected might be achieved.

" The nature of past events had informed him of the general condition of France, and the intelligence that he had procured on the road (from Frejus to Paris) had made him intimately acquainted with all that he required to know. His resolution was What he had not even wished to attempt upon his return from Italy, he was now determined to effect. His contempt for the government of the Directory, and for the political intriguers of the day, was extreme. Resolved to assume the chief control in the state, and to restore to France her days of glory, by giving an energetic impulse to public measures, it was for the execution of this project that he had come from Egypt; and all that he had just witnessed in the interior of France had only served to confirm his determination."

In the prosecution of this bold design he proceeded with caution. He went rarely into public—he admitted the visits of none but a few select friends, with whom he conferred upon the strength of the different parties, and the respective proposals that were tendered to him by each. Bernadotte, Augereau, and other leaders of the Jacobins, offered, on certain conditions, to place him at the head of a military dictatorship:—a more moderate consisting of Regnier, party, Boulay, &c. were for committing to him the direction of the government as it then stood. Directory was divided...Siéyes was for abolishing the present Constitution (La Constitution de

l'an III.) and substituting one that past the several parties had been he had framed. His views were supported by the Director Roger-Ducos and the majority of the Council of Ancients. The remaining three Directors, Barras, Moulins, and Gohier, proposed that Bopaparte should resume the command of the army of The two latter were Italy. sincere; but Barras, who was then intriguing for the restoration of the Bourbons, thought of nothing but retaining his present ascendancy. After deliberating over these several proposals. Napoleon was finally hesitating between those of Sieves and Barras, when the following occurrence betrayed the duplicity of the latter :---

"On the 8th Brumaire (October 30th) Napoleon dined with Barras. The company was small. In the course of conversation after dinner, 'The Republic,' said the Director, ' is going to ruin—the present system will never dothe government is without energy -we must have a change, and appoint Hedouville President of the Republic. With regard to you, General, your intention is to repair to the army; and as for myself, sick, desponding, and exhausted as I am, I am good for nothing but to retire to a private station.' Napoleon looked at him intently, without uttering a word—Barras sunk his eyes and was confounded :-the con-General versation ended there. Hedouville was a man of extreme mediocrity. Barras said not what he thought; his countenance betrayed his secret.

"This conversation was deci-A few moments afterwards Napoleon went to Siéyes. He informed him that for ten days

addressing themselves to himthat he had resolved to proceed in concert with him (Siéyes) and the majority of the Council of Ancients, and that he now came to give him a positive assurance of this intention. It was agreed that the change could be effected between the 15th and 20th Brumaire."

The sequel is equally curious and characteristic of the men and

" When Napoleon returned home, Talleyrand, Fouché, Rœderer, and Réal, were there. He told them with entire simplicity, and without any movement of countenance that could betray his own opinion, of what Barras had just been saying. Réal and Fouché, who were attached to that director, felt at once all the impolicy of his dissimulation, and repaired to his house to remonstrate with him. About eight o'clock on the following morning, Barras came to Napoleon, who had not yet risen. He insisted upon seeing him, entered, and said that he feared his meaning had been misunderstood the night before-that Napoleon alone could save the Republic-that he came to place himself at his disposal-to do whatever Napoleon should desire, and act any part that should be assigned him-and earnestly entreated to have an assurance that if he had any project in view, he would count upon Barras. But Napoleon had already taken his part: he answered that he desired nothing-that he was fatigued and indisposed—that after the arid climate of Arabia, he found his frame affected by the moist atmosphere of Paris, and by similar common-places he put an end to the interview."

Such were some of the petty matters that preceded and accelerated the momentous crisis that was at hand. The remaining particulars are given with the minute fidelity of an historian relating what he had actually witnessed. The final result was, that the plans which Napoleon, in concert with Siéyes, adopted, completely succeeded. The Directory was abolished. Napoleon, Siéyes, and Roger-Ducos were named provisional Consuls until a new Constitution should be framed. The new Constitution, from which however the subtleties contained in the portfolio of Siéyes were as much as possible excluded, was proclaimed on the 24th of the following December; and Napoleon, as first Consul of the French Republic, took his place among the sovereigns of Europe.—As such, his character and actions now form one of the most interesting topics in the range of historical investigation.

These Memoirs, independently of the martial details, embrace the multiplied objects of his ambitious policy, which may be summarily described to have been. to render France the arbitress. and Paris the capital of the world; to consolidate Italy into a separate kingdom; to transfer the seat of the Papal power to the metropolis of France; to subjugate the several Continental states into obedience, or terrify them into an alliance; and, above all, to break the naval and commercial, and thereby the political influence of England in the affairs of Europe. Upon the subject of these vast designs, the present

work supplies invaluable materials for the future historian; but their very importance precludes our entering upon them. Any one of even the subordinate topics connected with them would more than exhaust our limits. We shall, therefore, go on according to our original intention (and without any attempt at regular order) to take up such passages as have interested us by their novelty, and are capable of being compressed into our remaining space.

The following may be adduced as a characteristic example of Napoleon's originality and skill as a political intriguer. In 1800 it was the great object of France to detach the Emperor Paul from the alliance of England and Austria. He was at that time known to be deeply chagrined by the losses his army had sustained in Switzerland, and to be greatly dissatisfied with the conduct of his allies. Napoleon seized the occasion of turning those feelings to account, and, knowing his vulnerable point to be on the side of his heroical pretensions, he directed his operations against that quarter. little after the battle of Marengo he had flattered the vanity of Paul by sending him the sword which Leo the Tenth had presented to Ile-Adam, as the reward of his bravery in defending Rhodes against the Infidels; but an opportunity now offered of making a more brilliant and substantial present. Ten thousand Russian soldiers were prisoners of France. Napoleon proposed to England and Austria to exchange them for an equal number of Frenchmen. The offer, as no was refused. doubt expected, Napoleon

Napoleon exclaimed against the refusal as an act of narrow-minded injustice, and declared that, as a proof of the high estimation in which he held such brave soldiers, he would restore them without ransom to the Czar. The Russian officers accordingly received their swords, and all the prisoners were collected at Aixla-Chapelle, where they were newly clothed and equipped in the most splendid style that the manufactures of France could A Russian general was appointed to organize them into battalions and regiments. The ardent and impetuous Paul could not hold out against this. forthwith despatched a courier to Napoleon with the following singular letter :—

.

i.

÷

ſr.

. .

: -

.

٠.

μ.

٠,

1.

"Citizen First Consul,-I do not write to you in order to enter into discussions upon the rights of men or of citizens. Every country governs itself according to its own discretion. Wherever I see at the head of a country a man who knows how to govern and fight, my heart yearns towards him. I write to make you acquainted with my dissatisfaction towards England, who violates every right of nations, and is never guided but by her selfishness and interest. I wish to unite with you for the purpose of putting an end to the injustice of that government."

Shortly after the proposed treaty of alliance was formally executed.

In the account of Egypt, we have a short digression upon polygamy, and a proposed explanation of that institution different from those of preceding speculators.

"These countries (Africa and Asia) being inhabited by men of various colours, polygamy is the sole means of preventing mutual persecution. In order that the blacks should not be at war with the whites, and the whites with the blacks, and the copper-coloured with both, their legislators have judged it expedient to make them all members of one family, and thus to counteract that tendency in man to hate whatever is not himself. Mahomet considered that four wives were sufficient to attain this object, inasmuch as each man could have one white, one black, one copper-coloured, and one of some other colour. Doubtless it was also in spirit of a sensual creed to favour the passions of its votaries; and in this respect policy and the Prophet have been able to act in concord."

But although we take Napoleon's conjectures on this subject to be incorrect, there is no want of his accustomed sagacity and boldness in the application that he would make of his doctrine. Speaking in another place of the condition of St. Domingo, he says,

"The question of the liberty of the Blacks is one full of complication and difficulty. In Africa and Asia it has been resolved, but by the means of polygamy. There the blacks and whites form part of the same family—the head of the family having wives of various colours, all the children are brothers, are reared in the same cradle, bear the same name, and sit at the same table. Would it then be impossible to authorize polygamy in our islands, restricting the number of wives to two, a white

a white and a black? The First Consul had some conferences with theologians, in order to prepare the way for this important measure. Polygamy prevailed among the patriarchs in the first ages of Christianity—the Church tolerated a species of concubinage, of which the effect was the same. The Pope, the Council have the means of authorising a similar institution, since its object would be to conciliate and produce social harmony, and not to extend the indulgence of the senses. The effects of these marriages would have been limited to the colonies. and suitable measures would have been taken to prevent their producing any disorder in the present state of our society."

We select a passage, in which he recalls, after a lapse of many years, the impressions made upon him by the ladies of Egypt.

"The General-in-chief had numerous occasions of observing some of the most distinguished women of the country to whom he granted audiences. They were either the widows of Beys or Katchefs, or their wives who came during their absence to implore his protection. The richness of their dress, their elevated deportment, their little soft hands, their fine eyes, their noble and graceful carriage, and their extremely elegant manners, denoted that they were of a class and an education above the vulgar. They always commenced by kissing the hand of the Sultan Kebir\*, which they afterwards raised to their forehead, and then to their breast; many of them expressed their wishes with the most perfect

grase, and in an enchanting tone of voice, and displayed all the talent and the softness of the most accomplished Europeans. The propriety of their demeanour and the modesty of their attire added to their attractions, and the imagination took pleasure in forming conjectures respecting the charms of which they would not allow so much as a glimpse."

A little farther on he gives an instance of their propensity to assert the rights of women, even to petitioning himself for a redress of connubial grievances.

"The women have their privileges:—there are some things which their husbands cannot refuse them without being considered barbarians, monsters, without causing a general outcry against them; such, for example, is the right of going to the bath. at the vapour-baths that the women assemble; it is there that all sorts of intrigues, political and other, are planned; it is there that marriages are settled. neral Menou, who had married a female of Rosetta, treated her after the French manner : he led her by the hand into the dinnerroom—the best place at table the most delicate morsels were for her; if her handkerchief chanced to drop, he was on the alert to pick it up. As soon as she related these particulars in the bath of Rosetta, all the others began to entertain hopes of a general change of manners, and signed a petition to the Sultan Kebir, that their husbands should be made to treat them in the same way.†"

While we are upon the subject

The Great Sultan—the title by which Napoleon was designated by the Arabs.
 We throw together two or three shorter anecdotes that occur in this portion of the work.

of Napoleon's demeanour to women, we cannot refrain from inserting an example that we have met for the first time in these volumes, and which, upon higher grounds than those of courtesy, must be considered as most creditable to his memory. His public despatch from Cairo, (August 19, 1798,) announces to the Executive Directory the defeat of the French fleet at Aboukir-a disaster which he attributes to Admiral Brueys, who, in violation of repeated orders, neglected to remove his squadron from that exposed situation. On the same day he writes as follows to the widow of Brueys.

"Cairo, 3d Fructidor, year VI. (19 Aug. 1798.)—Your husband has been killed by a cannon-ball while he was fighting on board his vessel. He died without suffering, and a death the mildest and the most desired by military

:

٧.

**D**:

.

5:

į.

ŀ

3 ...

۲,

::

.

3

مز

1 ï

Ü

ì

"I deeply sympathise with your sorrow. The moment that separates us from the object we love is terrible: it severs us from the world—it affects the frame with convulsions of agony. The faculties of the mind are annihilated —it retains no relations with the world, except through the medium of an incubus which alters every thing. Mankind appear more cold and selfish than they really are. In such a situation we feel, that if nothing obliged us to live, it would be far better to die; but when, after that first impression; we press our children to our heart, tears and sentiments of tenderness reanimate nature, and we live for our children. dame, let yours from that first moment open your heart to me-You will weep with them, you will watch over their infancy, you will instruct them in their youth--you will talk to them of their father, of your grief, of the loss which they and the Republic have suffered. After having re-attached yourself to the world through the influence of filial and maternal love, appreciate for something the friendship and the lively interest that I shall ever entertain for the widow of

Napoleon gave frequent dinners to the Sheiks. Although our customs were so different from theirs, they found chairs, and knives and forks extremely convenient. At the conclusion of one of these dinners, he one day asked the Sheik El-Modi, "For the six months that I have been among you, what is the most useful thing I have taught you?" "The most useful thing you have taught me," replied the Sheik, half-serious, half-laughing, "is to drink at dinner."-The custom of the Arabs is not to drink until the repast is over.

At a dinner given to the General-in-chief by the Sheik El-Fayoum, the subject of conversation was the Koran. "It comprises all human knowledge," said the Sheiks.—Napoleon asked, "Does it contain the art of casting cannons, and making gunpowder?" "Yes," they replied, "but you must know how to read it;" a

scholastic distinction that has been more or less employed by every religion.

One day that Napoleon was surrounded by the Divan of the great Sheiks, information was brought that the Arabs of the tribe of the Osnadis had killed a Fellah and carried off the cattle. He manifested his indignation, and in an animated tone ordered a staff-officer to repair forthwith to Baireh with 200 dromedaries and 300 horsemen to obtain restitution and punish the offenders. The Sheik El-Modi, who was present at this order, and observed the emotion of the General-in-chief, said to him with a smile, "Is that Fellah your cousin, that his death should put you in such a passion?" "Yes," replied Napoleon, "all that I command are my children." "Taib"," said the Sheik, " you speak there like the Prophet."

An Arab word expressing great satisfaction.

my friend. Be persuaded that there are some men, though small in number, who deserve to be the hope of the afflicted, because they feel acutely for mental suffering. (Signed) "BONAPARTE."

(Signed) There are fewer symptoms in this publication of Napoleon's tendency to a belief in predestination than we expected to have The feeling, however, now and then breaks out-pretty strongly in his despatch from Egypt announcing the naval defeat at Aboukir; and also in the account of his marriage with Maria-Louisa. Upon that occasion Prince Schwartzenberg, the Austrian ambassador at Paris, gave a splendid fête at Paris, to which Napoleon and the new Empress were invited. In the midst of the festivities, a temporary ball-room, which had been constructed in the garden of the Ambassador's hotel, took fire. Many persons perished. Among them the Ambassador's sister-in-law. who was suffocated in the attempt to rescue one of her children. The writer proceeds-

"In 1770, during the fête given by the city of Paris to celebrate the marriage of Louis the Sixteenth with Marie-Antoinette, two thousand persons were overturned in the fosses of the Champs-Elysées, and perished. Afterwards, when Louis and Marie-Antoinette met their death upon the scaffold, this terrible accident was recollected and converted into a presage of what followed-for it is to the insurrection of that great metropolis that the Revolution must be immediately attributed. The unfortunate issue of a fête given by an Austrian ambassador. under similar circumstances, to

celebrate the alliance of two houses in the persons of Napoleon and Maria-Louisa, appeared an inauspicious omen. The misfortunes of France have been solely caused by the change of policy on the part of Austria. leon was not superstitious, yet upon that occasion he had a painful presentiment. The day after the battle of Dresden, when, during the pursuit of the Austrian army, he learned from a prisoner that Prince Schwartzenberg was rumoured to have been killed. he observed—' He was a brave man; but his death is so far consoling, that it was evidently he who was threatened by the unhappy omen at his ball.' hours after it was ascertained at head-quarters that it was Moreau, and not Prince Schwartzenberg, that had been killed the day before."

His ambition, culpable and destructive as it was, was not untinged by magnanimity. His abdication at Fontainbleau, the severest trial of human pride, was not so involuntary and sudden as was at the time supposed. In a despatch to Caulaincourt (4th Jan. 1814) appended to this publication, he announces his intention, if called upon, to make that sacrifice.

"Would they (the Allies) reduce France to her ancient limits? It would be to degrade her. They deceive themselves if they imagine that the reverses of war can make the nation desire peace upon such terms. There is not a French heart that would not in six months' time feel the scandal of such a peace, and that would not reproach the government that could be base enough to sign it. If the nation seconds me, the

enemy

enemy marches to his destruction. If fortune betrays me, my resolution is taken—I do not cling to the throne—I shall never disgrace the nation, or myself, by subscribing such shameful conditions."

He takes the following notice of the favourite generals killed at

the battle of Essling:

"On this day perished two generals, the Duke of Montebello and St. Hilaire—both of them heroes, and the best of Napoleon's friends. He wept for their loss. They would never have deserted him in his adversity; they would never have been faithless to the glory of the French people. Duke of Montebello was a native of Lectoure. When a chef de batuillon he distinguished himself during the campaigns of 1796 in As a general he covered himself with glory in Egypt, at Montebello, at Marengo, at Austerlitz, at Jéna, at Pultusk, at Friedland, at Tudela, at Saragossa, at Eckmül and at Essling, where he found a glorious death. He was cautious, sagacious, and daring; before an enemy his presence of mind was not to be shaken. He owed little to education-Nature had done every thing for him. Napoleon, who had witnessed the progress of his mind, often remarked it with astonishment. For manœuvring five-and-twenty thousand infantry on the field of battle, he was superior to all the generals of the French army. He was still young, and would have become more perfect; perhaps he might even have reached to a proficiency in the highest branch of tactics (le grande tactique), which as yet he had not understood.—St. Hilaire 1823.

was a general at Castiglione in 1796. He was remarkable for the chivalry of his character. He had excellent dispositions, was a kind companion, a kind brother, a kind relative. He was covered with wounds. His attachment to Napoleon commenced at the siege of Toulon. They called him, alluding to Bayard, 'le Chevalier sans peur, et sans reproche.'"

During the last month of Las Cases' intercourse with him, Napoleon's health continued to decline. Las Cases being sent for one day, found him in his chamber with a handkerchief rolled round his head. He was seated in an arm-chair, beside a great fire, which he had ordered to be

kindled.

"What," said he, " is the severest disorder, the most acute pain to which human nature is subject?" I replied that the pain of the present moment always appeared to be the most severe. "Then it is the tooth-ache," said he. He had a violent secretion of saliva, and his right cheek was much swelled and inflamed. He was also affected by a severe nervous cough, and occasional yawning and shivering, which . denoted approaching fever. ---"What a miserable thing is man!" said he; "the smallest fibre of his body assailed by disease is sufficient to derange his whole system. On the other hand, in spite of all the maladies to which he is subject, it is sometimes necessary to employ the executioner, to put an end to him. What a curious machine is this earthly clothing! and perhaps I. may be confined in it for thirty years longer!"

A day or two after, the signs

D

of

of a sinking spirit broke out in a simpler and more affecting manner.

"The Emperor observing on his drawers some confectionary or sweetmeats which had been accidentally left there, he desired me to bring them to him; and seeing that I hesitated and felt embarrassed, as to how I should present them, he said, 'Take them in your hand; there is no need of ceremony or form between us now. We must henceforth be messmates.'"

In one of their conversations, Napoleon, adverting to his return from Elba and his second fall at Waterloo, confessed to Las Cases. that in that final struggle be was no longer sustained by his former confidence in his fortune. He mentioned as a remarkable circumstance, that every advantage he obtained at this period, was immediately followed by some reverse. He had marched through France, and arrived in the capital amidat the universal enthusiasm and acclamations of the people; but no sooner had he reached Paris, than by a sort of magic, and without any adequate motive. all around retracted and grewcold. He despatched agents to Austria, and had every hope of effecting a reconciliation with that power; but Murat with his fatal enterprise, of which Napoleon was suspected to have been the mover, started up and baffled all his attempts at negotiation. Then came the first successes of the campaign of 1815, so quickly followed by his final overthrow at Waterloo.

"Yet," he continued, "I must confess that all these strokes of

fate distressed me more than they surprised me. I felt the centiment of an unfortunate result not that this in any way influenced my determination and measures, but the foreboding certainty haunted my mind."

As a proof that such was Napoleon's state of feeling at this period, Las Cases has inserted the

following anecdote:-

"When on the banks of the Sambre, the Emperor early one morning approached a bivousc fire, accompanied only by his aide-de-camp on duty (General ----). Some potatoes were boiling on the fire, and the Emperor asked for one, and began to eat it. Then, with a meditative and somewhat melancholy expression, he uttered the following broken sentences: 'After all, it is endurable. live in any place and in any way... The moment, perhaps, is not far remote...Themistocles!"

In the preceding year (1814) when he was quitting the Tuilenes to enter upon the short and unfortunate, but brilliant campaign that followed, his mind was visited by forebodings, in which none around him shared, that if he fell, it would be by the Bourbons. The few of his particular friends to whom he communicated his apprehensions, vainly endeavoured to remove them by representing, " that the Bourbons were forgotten—that they were wholly usknown to the present generation." "There is the real danger," was his invariable reply—an expression full of meaning, and of which the French can by this time comprehend the entire import. This

presentiment explains a remark-

sble

able passage in his parting address to the efficers of the National Guard-" You elected me-I am your work, and it is for you to defend me." After which, presenting to them the Empress and the King of Rome, he added, " I go to oppose the enemy, and I consign to your care all that I bold most dear." We are informed by Las Cases, that at this decisive moment, Napoleon foresaw that he should be betrayed, and had resolved, before quitting Paris, to secure the person of him (Talleyrand, we presume) who proved to be the main-spring of the plot by which his overthrow was effected. He was prevented from executing his intention only by representations, and it may even be said offers of personal responsibility, on the part of some of his ministers, who assured him, that the individual suspected had more reason than any one else to dread the return of the Bourbons. Napoleon yielded; at the same time emphatically expressing fears that he might have cause to regret his forbearance.

A little farther on we have, upon the same subject, a still more striking and characteristic passage. After the check sustained at Brienne, the evacuation of Troves, the forced retreat on the Seine, and the degrading conditions which were transmitted from Chatillon, but which were so generously rejected, the Emperor, who was closeted with one of his friends, overpowered at the sight of the miseries that were impending on France, suddenly rose from his chair, exclaiming with warmth-

"'Perhaps I still possess the means of saving France...What

if I were myself to recall the Bourbons! The Allies would then be compelled to arrest their course, under pain of being overwhelmed with disgrace, and detected in their duplicity-under pain of being forced to acknowledge that their designs were directed against our territory rather than against my person. I should sacrifice all to the Country. I should become the mediator between the French people and the Bourbons. I should oblige the latter to accede to the national laws, and to swear fidelity to the existing compact. My glory and name would be a guarantee to the French people. As to me, I have reigned long enough; my career is filled with acts of glory, and this last will not be esteemed the least; I shall rise the higher by descending thus far...' after a pause of some moments he added, 'But can a repulsed dynasty ever forgive? ever forget? Can the Bourbons be trusted? May not Fox be right in his famous maxim respecting restorations?' come by grief and anxiety, he threw himself on his couch, and was shortly after roused to be made acquainted with the march of the flank of Blucher's corps. on which he had for some time been secretly keeping watch. He rose to put into action that new spring of resources, energy, and glory, which will for ever consecrate the names of Champ-Aubert, Montmirail, Château-Thierry, Vauchamps, &c. &c."

Several of Napoleon's conversations turn upon his various plans for the aggrandizement of France, and the stability of the new institutions upon which his

D 2 government

We government was founded. have observed upon his ineffectual efforts to create a naval power capable of contesting the dominion of the seas with England. We find him returning to the same subject, and explaining the difficulties he encountered. name of Suffren, who died in 1789, being casually mentioned, Napoleon made enquiries respecting him, saying, "that although, upon the report of his having rendered important services to France, he had been very liberal to his family, he had never had an opportunity of forming a correct opinion of his character." Las Cases proceeded to describe him, and it is a little curious to observe the class of qualities that would, it appears, have recommended the possessor to the highest favour of Napoleon :---

" Suffren possessed genius, invention, ardour, ambition, and inflexible steadiness. He was harsh, capricious, egotistical, a most unpleasant messmate, was loved by no one, though valued and admired by all. He was a man with whom no one could live on good terms. He was impatient of control, fond of condemning every thing, and, while he incessantly declaimed against the utility of tactics, he proved himself to be a perfect tactician. short, he evinced all the irritability and restlessness of genius and ambition deprived of elbow-room. On obtaining the command of the Indian squadron, he went to take leave of the King, and one of the officers of the palace could with difficulty open a passage for him through the crowd. 'I thank you,' said he to the usher, grunting and snorting in his usual way,

'but when I come out, Sir, you shall see that I know how to clear the way for myself;' and he kept his word."

Las Cases continuing to mention his successes in India, which were mainly attributable to his contempt for the established routine of naval technicalities:—

"Oh," exclaimed the Emperor, "why did not Suffren live till my time? or why did I not light upon a man of this stamp? I would have made him our Nelson. I was constantly seeking for a man qualified to raise the character of the French navy, but I could never find one. There is, in the navy, a peculiarity, a technicality that impeded all my conceptions. If I proposed a new idea, immediately Ganthaume and the whole marine department were up against 'Sire, that cannot be.' Why not? 'Sire, the winds do not admit of it.' Then objections were started respecting calms and currents, and I was obliged to stop short. How is it possible to maintain a discussion with those whose language we do not com-How often in the Council of State have I reproached naval officers with taking an undue advantage of this circumstance? To hear them talk, one might have been led to suppose that it was necessary to be born in the navy to know any thing Yet I often told them, about it. that had it been in my power to have performed a voyage to India with them, I should, on my return, have been as familiar with their profession as with the field of battle. But they could not credit this." Napoleon went on to observe upon a plan, which, after long hesitation, he had been prevailed

prevailed on to adopt, the enrolment of several thousands of children from six to eight years of age. The result was clamour and discontent on the part of the public, who turned the whole affair into ridicule, styling it 'the massacre of the innocents.' Subsequently he had been assured, he said, by De Winter, Verhuel, all the great naval commanders of the North and others, that from 18 to 20 (the age for the Conscription) was early enough to begin to learn the duties of a sailor. Alluding to the Swedes and Danes, who employ their soldiers in the navy, and to the Russians, with whom the fleet is but a portion of the army, he added that in creating crews for his men-of-war he had planned something of the same kind, but that at every step he had been encountered by obstacles and prejudices. It required all his perseverance to succeed in clothing the sailors in uniform, forming them into regiments, and drilling them by military exercise. the men thus disciplined were not worse sailors than the rest, and made the very best soldiers. "If," he repeated, "instead of being thus opposed by obstacles, I had found in the navy a man capable of entering into my views and promoting my ideas, what importance might we not have obtained! But during my reign, I never found a naval officer who could depart from the old routine, and strike out a new course."

In another conversation he went over his system of interior policy, the necessity upon which it was founded, and the gradual improvements he had projected. Among these, the abolition of lucrative offices was one of the changes that be most anxiously contemplated. The necessity of conciliating individuals had compelled him to annex liberal salaries, absolute fortunes, to offices of trust; but he had hoped in process of time to render the performance of all high public duties gratuitous.

" I would have discarded those needy individuals, who cannot be their own masters, and whose urgent wants engender political immorality. I would have wrought such a change in opinion, that public posts should have been sought after for the mere honour of filling them ... The love of place is the greatest check to public A man who solicits a public post, feels his independence sold beforehand. In England the greatest families, the whole peerage, disdain not to hunt Their excuse is, after places. that the enormous burdens of taxation deprive them of the means of living without additions to their income. Pitiful pretence! It is because their principles are more decayed than their fortunes. When people of a certain rank stoop to solicit public posts for the sake of emolument, there is an end to all independence and dignity of national character. In France the shocks and commotions of our Revolution might have afforded an apology for such conduct. All had been unsettled. and all felt the necessity of reestablishing themselves. mote this object with the least possible offence to delicacy of feeling, I was induced to attach considerable emolument and high honour to all public posts. in course of time, I intended to work a change by the mere force

of opinion. And this was by no means impossible. Every thing must yield to the influence of power, when it is directed to objects truly just, honourable, and great."

These were, we fear, chimeras. We question the possibility of effecting such a revolution in any country, where a taste for ease and refinement has once taken root; and we greatly apprehend, that, among all the nations of Europe, modern France is the

Europe, modern France is the very one where the necessary simplicity of character, and practical exaltation of sentiment, would be most difficultly produced, and the least likely to be permanent. After he had developed the preceding views, Las Cases expressed his surprise that he should never have thrown out

a hint of the important objects he had in contemplation.

"What would have been the use of promulgating my intentions?" said he: "I should have been styled a quack, accused of insinuation and subtilty, and have fallen into discredit. Sitnated as I was, deprived of hereditary authority, and of the illusion called legitimacy, I was compelled to avoid entering the lists my opponents. obliged to be bold, imperious, and decisive. You have told me that in your Faubourg they used to say, 'Why is he not legitimate?' If I had been so, I certainly should not have done more than I did; but my conduct might bave appeared more amiable."

Two or three days after, we find him revealing, at considerable length, and with his accustomed animation, some of the principal objects of his general policy.

One of his great plans, he said, was the concentration of France, Spain, Germany and Italy, each into a separate nation, but bound together by a federal compact, and, if possible, by a unity of cedes, principles, opinions, and interests. The concentration of France was perfected — that of Italy far advanced. In Spain, he asserts, it would have been accomplished, had it not been for the reverses he sustained at distant points, and the error he committed in transferring his whole forces to the distance of a thousand leagues from that country. Had it not been for this, he expected in the course of three or four years to have effected such a prosperous revolution in the condition of the Spaniards, as would have well entitled him to their gratitude. This hope might have been reasonable, or it may have been only the sophistry of an ambitious mind, seizing upon any pretext for open and unprovoked aggression; but he was at least prophetic in one point of his concluding observations upon this topic: "I should have saved them from the tyranny by which they are now oppressed, and the terrible agitations that await them." His remarks upon Germany, though few, have a prospective interest, that gives them no small importance.

"The concentration of the Germans must have been effected more gradually, and therefore I had done no more than simplify their monstrous complication. Not that they were unprepared for concentralization. On the contrary, they were too well prepared for it, and they might have blindly risen in reaction against

us,

we, before they had comprehended our designs. How happens it that no German prince has yet **formed a** just notion of the spirit of his nation, and turned it to good account? Certainly if Heaven had made me a prince of Germany, amidst the many critical events of our times, I should infallibly have governed the 30,000,000 of Germans combined; and from what I know of them, I think I may venture to affirm, that if they had once elected and proclaimed me, they would not have forsaken me, and L should never have been at St. Helena."

z

Œ

٥

5.

1

¥

ï

.

:

٠.

Ŀ

۲

C:

ė

.

i.

ŗ.

Ç,

Ī

1.

y

į

1

į.

ď

3

ţ

Then after some melancholy details and comparisons, resuming the previous subject, he said,

"At all events this concentration will be brought about sooner or later by the very force of events. The impulse is given, and I think that, since my fall, and the destruction of my system, no grand equilibrium can possibly be established in Europe, except by the concentration and confederation of the principal nations. The sovereign who, in the first great conflict, shall sincerely embrace the cause of the people, will find himself at the head of all Europe, and may attempt whatever he pleases."

Here again he returns to his motives for withholding all disclosures upon the subject of these apd his other adventurous projects. The passage is remarkable, and one of the most explanatory that we recollect him to have given, of that air of incomprehensibility with which, in the fulness of his power, he was pleased to envelope his proceedings.

"It will perhaps be asked," he

says, " why I did not suffer these ideas to transpire? why I did not submit them to public discussion ; since they would doubtless have become popular, and popularity would have been an immense reinforcement to me? My answer is, that malevolence is ever more active than good intention; that at the present day, the power of wit overrules good sense, and obscures the clearest points at will; and that to have submitted these important subjects to public diseussion would have been to consign them to the mercy of party passion, intrigue, spirit, gossiping, while the infallible result would have been discredit opposition. I conceived. therefore, that secrecy was the most advisable course. I surrounded myself with that halo of mystery, which pleases and interests the multitude, -gives birth to speculations which occupy the public mind, and finally, affords opportunities for those sudden and brilliant disclosures which exercise such important influence. It was this very principle that accelerated my unfortunate march to Moscow. Had I been more deliberate, I might have averted every evil; but I could not delay. and afford time for comment. With my career already traced out, with my ideas formed for the future, it was necessary that my movement and my success should seem, as it were, supernatural."

While we are upon this subject we may in passing observe, that these and similar disclosures contained in other parts of the present work, have been received in a somewhat singular spirit by certain persons among the French, who shared in Napoleon's power,

and still profess a devotion to his To some of these, who had constant access to his person, and were considered to have been admitted to his confidence, it has not been a little mortifying to find their old master proclaiming that, after all, they had been as ignorant as the multitude of his secret motives and intentions upon the most important occasions of his career. They accordingly assert pretty roundly and confidently, that the Emperor has been mystifying the Count Las Cases and Europe; that these elaborate explanations of his uncommunicated views and objects are all a fable, invented for the sole purpose of his individual justification, and therefore to be treated by all sagacious readers as neither more nor less than a We cannot brilliant imposture. stop to adjust the conflicting probabilities between the Exile's veracity and the incredulity of his former servants. We simply give as not an incurious circumstance, the feeling which we have recently discovered to exist upon this portion of the conversations at St. Helena.

It is not surprising that such a man as Bonaparte should have had an expensive wife, but it is at once ludicrous and lamentable to think that her rage for caps and bonnets should have compelled him to employ an imperial coupde-main upon such an object as a refractory Parisian milliner. Such however appears to have been the necessity of his situation.

"Speaking of the Empress Josephine, he says, 'Her extravagance vexed me beyond measure. Calculator as I am, I would, of course, rather have given away a million of france than have seen 100,000 squandered away.' He informed us, that having one day unexpectedly broken in upon Josephine's morning circle, he found a celebrated milliner, whom he had expressly forbidden to go near the Empress, as she was ruining her by extravagant demands. 'My unlooked-for entrance occasioned great dismay the academic sitting. gave some orders unperceived to the individuals who were in attendance, and on the lady's departure she was seized, and conducted to the Bicetre. A great outery was raised among the higher circles in Paris; it was said that my conduct was dis-It soon became the graceful. fashion to visit the milliner in her confinement, and there was daily a file of carriages at the gate of the prison. The police informed 'All the me of these facts. better,' said I; 'but I hope she is not treated with severity; not confined in a dungeon.'—' No, Sire, she has a suite of apartments, and a drawing-room. - 'Oh, well! let her be. If this measure is pronounced to be tyrannical, so much the better; it will be a diapason stroke for a Very little great many others. will serve to shew that I can do more."

But what follows was still more provoking.

"He also mentioned a celebrated man-milliner who, he said, was the most insolent fellow he had ever met with in the whole course of his life. 'I was one day,' said the Emperor, 'speaking to him respecting a trowsseau that he had furnished, when he had the presumption to call my conduct in question. He did what no man in France except himself would have ventured to do; he began with great volubility to prove to me that I did not grant a sufficient allowance to the Empress Josephine, and that it was impossible she could pay for her clothes out of such a sum. I soon put an end to his impertinent eloquence. I stopped him short with a look, and left him transfixed."

We have already noticed the rapidity and precision of his judgments upon literary topics: we give one farther example.

"At first he expressed his surprise that the Romans should have had no tragedies; but then again he observed, that tragedy, in dramatic representation, would have been ill-calculated to rouse the feelings of the Romans, since they performed real tragedy in their circuses. 'The combats of the gladiators,' said he, 'the sight of men consigned to the fury of wild beasts, were far more terrible than all our dramatic horrors put together. in fact, were the only tragedies suited to the iron nerves of the Romans,"

There are many scattered sayings which mark the man.

Speaking of the elements of society, he said, "Democracy may be furious—but it has some heart—it may be moved. As to Aristocracy, it is always cold and unforgiving."

One day, when the Emperor was reproaching an individual for not correcting the vices which he knew he possessed, "Sir," said he, "when a man knows his moral infirmity, he may cure his mind, just as he would cure his arm or his leg."

It was asked in his presence, how it happened that misfortunes which were yet uncertain often distressed us more than miseries that had already been suffered: "Because," observed the Emperor, "in the imagination, as in calculation, the power of what is unknown is incommensurable."

The same promptness of scientific analysis will be recognised in the following anecdote. - The Count Las Cases, who, by the way, is singularly prone to exalt every casual coincidence into a miraculous interference, related instance of the kind, reported to him by Charette, the hero of La Vendée. Charette, in his youth, was off Brest in a small cutter, when a furious gale of wind came on. mast was carried away: vessel became unmanageable. and certain destruction seemed inevitable. At the moment of extreme danger, the whole crew, by a spontaneous impulse, made a vow of a taper to Our Lady of Recouvrance at Brest, if she would vouchsafe to ensure their safety. The wind instantly abated. It was in the month of December, and the night was long and dark. The vessel, which had got entangled among ridges, drifted along at hazard, and the crew had resigned themselves to the will of fate, when they unexpectedly heard the ringing of a bell. They sounded, and finding but little depth of water, they cast anchor. At daybreak they found that they were at the mouth of the river of Landernau. bell they had heard was that of the neighbouring parish church.

"The cutter," continued the Count, "had miraculously escaped

caped the numerous sand-banks that are dispersed about the entrance of Brest. She had been carried through the narrow inlet of the port, had passed three or four hundred ships that were lying in the roads, and had at length found a calm station at the mouth of the river."-" This," said the Emperor, "shews the difference between the blindfold efforts of man, and the certain course of That, at which you exnature. press so much surprise, must necessarily have happened. It is very probable, that with the full power of exerting the utmost skill, the confusion and errors of the moment would have occasioned the wreck of the vessel; whereas, in spite of so many adverse chances, Nature saved her: she was borne onward by the tide; the force of the current carried her precisely through the middle of each channel, so that she could not possibly be lost."

Among the numerous historical details that are scattered throughout the present publication, there is a full account of the affair of the unfortunate Duke d'Enghien, and of the manner in which Napoleon recurred to it. In the presence of strangers he adopted a line of argument founded almost exclusively on the law of nature and state politics. With those whom he admitted to the intimacy of private conversation, he descended into the following particulars:—

"I was one day alone, I recollect it well; I was taking my coffee, half-seated on the table on which I had just dined, when sudden information is brought to me that a new conspiracy has been discovered. I am warmly

wrged to put an end to these enormities. They represent to me that it is time, at last, to give a lesson to those who have been day after day conspiring against my life; that this end can only be attained by shedding the blood of one of them; and that the Duke d'Enghien, who might now be convicted of forming part of this new conspiracy. and taken in the very act, should be that one. It was added, that he had been seen at Strasburg; that it was even believed that he had been in Paris; and that the plan was, that he should enter France by the East, at the moment of the explosion, whilst the Duke of Berry was disembarking in the West. I should tell you (observed the Emperor) that I did not even know precisely who the Duke d'Enghien was (the Revolution having taken place when I was yet a very young man, and I having never been at Court); and that I was quite in the dark as to where he was at that moment. Having been informed on those points, I exclaimed, that if such were the case, the Duke ought to be arrested, and that orders should be given to that effect. Every thing had been foreseen, and prepared the different orders were already drawn up—nothing remained to be done but to sign them; and the fate of the young Prince was thus decided. He had been residing for some time past at a distance of about three leagues from the Rhine, in the States of Baden. Had I been sooner aware of this fact, and of its importance, I should have taken umbrage at it, and should not have suffered the Prince to remain so

near the frontiers of France; and that circumstance, as it happened, would have saved his life, for the assertions that were advanced at the time, that I had been strenuously opposed in this affair, and that numerous solicitations had been made to me, they are utterly false, and were only invented to make me appear in a more odious light. The same thing may be said of the various motives that have been ascribed to me. These motives may have existed in the bosoms of those who acted an inferior part on the occasion, and may have guided them in their private views; but my conduct was influenced only by the nature of the fact itself. and the energy of my disposition. Undoubtedly, if I had been informed in time of certain circumstances respecting the opinions of the Prince, and his dispositionif, above all, I had seen the letter which he wrote to me, and which, God knows for what reason, was only delivered to me after his death, I should certainly have forgiven him."

Here, however, we conclude our extracts, regretting we cannot find room for more: but we conclude as we began, by cautioning against too implicitly believing the statements here laid down. Some may doubtless be refuted; the last relating to the Duke d'Enghien has since been fully so. History has, however, upon her roll but very few names, perhaps no one altogether so remarkable as that of Bonaparte; and when a thousand years shall have rolled over his grave, the conquerors of antiquity, and those of later years, will appear but insignificant characters compared with him5. Memoirs of General Count Rapp, First Aide-de-cump to Napoleon. Written by himself.

General Rapp was one of Bonaparte's most distinguished officers; and, in the quality of aidede-camp, accompanied his master through all those brilliant but desolating campaigns, which at length terminated in the ill-judged and fatal expedition to Russia.

He commenced his military career under the celebrated Dessaix in the campaigns of Germany and Egypt. On the death of Dessaix, who was killed at Marengo, Bonaparte, then First Consul, appointed him to a postabout his own person, and from that time he seems to have been permanently established in Napoleon's confidence. However differently we may ourselves think of the latter, it would be unjust not to insert the following apology for his apparent character:—

" Many persons have described Napoleon as a violent, harsh, and passionate man; this is because they have not known him. sorbed as he was in important business, opposed in his views, and impeded in his plans, it was certainly natural that he should sometimes evince impatience and inequality of temper. His natural kindness and generosity soon subdued his irritation; but it must be observed, that, far from seeking to appease him, his confidents never failed to excite his anger. 'Your Majesty is right,' they would say, 'such a one deserves to be shot or broken, dismissed or disgraced: I have long known him to be your enemy. An example must be made; it is necessary for the maintenance of

tranquillity.,

tranquillity.' If the matter in question had been to levy contributions on the enemy's territory, Napoleon, perhaps, would demand twenty millions; but he would be advised to exact ten millions more. He would be told by those about him, 'It is necessary that your Majesty should spare your treasury, that you should maintain your troops at the expense of foreign countries, or leave them to subsist on the territory of the Confederation.' If he entertained the idea of levying 200,000 conscripts, he was persuaded to demand 300,000. If he proposed to pay a creditor whose right was unquestionable, doubts were started respecting the legality of the The amount claimed was perhaps reduced to one half, or one third; and it not unfrequently happened that the debt was denied altogether. If he spoke of commencing war, the bold resolution was applauded. It was said war enriched France; that it was necessary to astonish the world, and to astonish it in a way worthy of the great nation. Thus, by being excited and urged to enter upon uncertain plans and enterprises, Napoleon was plunged Thus it was, into continual war. that his reign was impressed with an air of violence contrary to his own character and habits, which were perfectly gentle."

Whatever may have been the other qualities of Bonaparte's character, we have certainly always thought the charge of the absence of personal bravery a most absurd one. General Rapp repels it with indignation, and describes the circumstances attending the explosion of the infernal machine

in proof of Napoleon's self-possession:

"When I entered the theatre Napoleon was seated in his box, calm and composed, and looking at the audience through his opera-Fouché was beside him. glass. 'Josephine ----' said he, as soon as he observed me. She entered at that moment, and he did not 'The rasfinish his question. cals,' said he very coolly, ' wanted to blow me up. Bring me a book of the Oratorio.'"

The negotiations with the Austrian General Mack, who having shut himself up in Ulm, was induced to surrender, although possessing a force of 35,000 men, in the best possible order, affords a fine specimen of the manner in which the French, during the memorable events to which these Memoirs relate, 'eked out the lion's with the fox's skin;' but an instance of similar craft, after the occupation of Vienna, is more capable of being extracted:

"We marched close upon the enemy's rear-guard. We might easily have taken it; but we We wished to avoided doing so. lull his vigilance: we did not press him closely, and we circulated reports of peace. We suffered both troops and baggage to escape us; but the loss of a few men was of little consequence. The preservation of the bridges was the important point: if they should be broken, it was determined that we should repair them; we took our measures accordingly. troops, who were posted in echelon on the road, were warned to allow no demonstration to escape them that was likely to put the enemy on his guard. No one was permitted

mitted to enter Vienna; but every thing being examined, and every arrangement completed, the Grand Duke took possession of the capital, and directed Lanusses and Bertrand to make without delay a reconnaissance on the river. Thev found at the gates of the suburb a post of Austrian cavalry. There had been no fighting for upwards It appeared as of three days. though an armistice had been en-Lanusses and Bertered into. trand accosted the Austrian commandant, commenced a conversation with him, followed him closely, and would not suffer him to quit them. On reaching the banks of the river, they still persisted in following him, in spite of his wish to get rid of them. The Austrian became impatient; the French generals asked leave to communicate with the general commanding the troops stationed on the left bank of the river. They obtained permission to do so; but the 10th hussars were not allowed to accompany them, and they were consequently obliged to halt and take a position. Meanwhile our troops were advancing, led by the Grand Duke and Marshal Lannes. The bridge still remained undamaged; but the trains were laid, and the gunners held their matches in readiness: the least sign that might have indicated the intention of passing by force would have ruined the enterprise. It was necessary to resort to artifice; and we succeeded in imposing on the simplicity of the Austrians. The two marshals dismounted, and only a small detachment entered upon the bridge. General Belliard advanced, walking with his hands behind his back, accompanied by

two officers of the staff: Lannes joined him with some others; they walked about, talking together, and at length joined the Austrians. The officer commanding the post at first directed them to stand back; but he at length permitted them to advance, and they entered into conversation together. They repeated what had already been affirmed by General Bertrand, namely, that the negotiations were advancing, that the war was at an end, and that there would be no more fighting and slaughter. 'Why,' said the Marshal, 'do you keep your guns still pointed at us? Has there not been enough of bloodshed? Do you wish to attack us, and to prolong miseries which weigh more heavily on you than on us? Come, let us have no more provocation; turn your guns.' Half persuaded and half convinced, the commanding officer yielded. artillery was turned in the direction of the Austrians, and the troops laid down their arms in bundles. During this conference the platoon of our advanced guard came up slowly, and at length it arrived, masking sappers and gunners, who threw the combustible matters into the river, sprinkled water on the powder, and cut the trains. The Austrian commander, who was not sufficiently acquainted with the French language to take much interest in the conversation, perceived that the troop was gaining ground, and endeavoured to make us understand that he could not permit Marshal Lannes and General Belliard tried to satisfy him; they observed that the cold was severe, and that our men were only marching about to warm themselves.

selves. But the column still continued to advance, and it was already three quarters over the bridge. The commander lost all patience, and ordered his troops to fire: they instantly took up their arms, and the artillerymen prepared their guns. Our situation was terrible: a little less presence of mind on our part, and the bridge would have been blown up, our troops in the river, and the campaign at an end. But the Austrian had to deal with men who were not easily disconcerted. Marshal Lannes seized him by the one arm, and General Belliard by the other. They threatened him, and drowned his voice when he attempted to call for help, Meanwhile the Prince of Hogsberg strived accompanied by General Bertrand. An officer set off to render an account of the state of affairs to the Grand Duke; and on his way transmitted to the troop an order to quicken their march and arrive speedily. Marshal advanced to meet the Prince, complained of the conduct of the commander of the post, requested that he might be punished and removed from the rear-guard, where he might impede the negotiations. Hogsberg fell into the snare: he deliberated, approved, contradicted, and lost himself in a useless conversation. Our troops made the most of their time; they arrived, debouched, and the bridge was taken. connaissances were immediately ordered in every direction; and General Belliard led our columns on the road leading to Stockrau, where they took a position.-Hogsberg, mortified at his illtimed loquacity, proceeded to the Grand Duke, who, after a short

conversation, referred him to Napoleon, and also crossed the tiver."

The following account of the battle of Borodino is extremely characteristic:

" Night came on. I was in attendance; I slept in Napoleon's tent. The part where he slept was generally separated by a partition of cloth from that which was reserved for the aide-de-camp The Emperor in attendance. slept very little: I waked him several times to give him in reports and accounts from the advanced posts, which all proved to him that the Russians expected to be attacked. At three in the morning he called a valet-dechambre, and made him bring some punch; I had the honour of taking some with him. He asked me if I had slept well; I answered, that the nights were already cold, that I had often been awak-He said, 'We shall have an affair to-day with this famous Kutusow. You recollect, no doubt, that it was he who commanded at Braunau, in the campaign of Austerlitz. He remained three weeks in that place, without leaving his chamber once. He did not even get on horseback to see the fortifications. General Benigsen, though as old, is a more vigorous fellow than he. I do not know why Alexander has not sent this Hanoverian to replace Barclay.' He took a glass of punch, read some reports, and added, 'Well, Rapp, do you think that we shall manage our concerns properly to-day ?'-- 'There is not the least doubt of it, Sire; we have exhausted all our resources. we are obliged to conquer.' Napoleon continued his discourse, and

and replied: 'Fortune is a liberal mistress; I have often said so, and begin to experience it.'— ' Your Majesty recollects that you did me the honour to tell me at Smolensko, that the glass was full, that it must be drunk off.'-- 'It is at present the case more than ever: there is no time to lose. The army moreover knows its situation: it knows that it can only find provisions at Moscow, and that it has not more than thirty leagues to go. This poor army is much reduced, but what remains of it is good; my guard, He sent besides, is untouched.' for Prince Berthier, and transacted business till half-past five. We mounted on horseback: the trumpets sounded, the drums were beaten; and as soon as the troops knew it, there was nothing but ' It is the enthuacclamations. siasm of Austerlitz. Let the proclamation be read.'

;

ž

ľ

Ħ

Ľ

7

3

٠,

.

2

Ç.

Ç.

ş.

Æ

1

σż

79

Ç,

1

T

jØ.

بملي

ş

ď.

...

3

لإ

3

٠ ؤ

٤

ï

; }

1

7

ŧ

'Soldiers!

'This is the battle that you have so long wished for! Henceforth victory depends on you; we want her; she will give us abundance of good winter-quarters, and a quiet return to our country. Behave yourselves as at Austerlitz, at Friedland, at Witepsk, at Smolensko; and let the remotest posterity quote your conduct on this day, and let it be said of you, 'He was at that great battle under the walls of Moscow.'

"The acclamations redoubled, the troops were incessantly demanding to fight, the action

soon began.

"The wings were composed of Italians and Poles: Napoleon acted on the left of the enemy's masses. Beyond this we had no precise information; women, children, old

people, cattle, all had disappeared; there was not a person left who could give us the least infor-Ney marched towards mation. the enemy, and broke through them with that force, that impetuosity, of which he had given so We carried the many proofs. three redoubts which supported He came up with the enemy. fresh troops; confusion began in our ranks; we gave up two of these works: the last even was in The Russians already danger. crowned the crest of the ditches. The King of Naples sees the danger, flies to the spot, alights from his horse, enters, mounts the parapet; he calls and animates the soldiers. The redoubt is strengthened, the fire becomes terrible, the assailants dare not try the assault. Some squadrons appear; Murat mounts his horse, charges, routs the columns scattered over the plain. We retake the intrenchments, and finally establish ourselves in them. trait of boldness decided the fate of the day.

" General Compans had just been wounded; I went to take the command of his division. made a part of the corps d'armée of Marshal Davoust. It had already taken one of the intrenched positions of the enemy; it had also suffered much. I consulted. on my arrival, with Marshal Ney, whose right I supported. troops were in confusion, rallied them, we rushed headlong on the Russians, we made them expiate their success. Neither discharges of cannon nor musquetry could stop us. The infantry, the cavalry, charged with fury from one extremity of the line to the other. I had never

before

before seen such carnage. We had inclined too much towards the right; the King of Naples remained alone, exposed to the havoc of the batteries of Seminskoe. He had nothing but cavalry; a deep ravine separated him from the village: it was not easy to take it, but it was necessary to do so under pain of being swept away by the grape-shot. General Belliard, who only perceives a screen of light cavalry, conceives the design of driving it off and moving by the left on the redoubt. 'Run to Latour Maubourg,' Murat said to him; 'tell him to take a brigade of French and Saxon cuirassiers, to pass the ravine, to put all to the sword, to arrive at full gallop at the back of the redoubt, and to spike all the cannon. If he should fail, let him return in the same direction. You shall place a battery of forty pieces of cannon and a part of the reserve to protect the retreat.' Latour Maubourg put himself in movement, routed, dispersed the Russians, and made himself master of the works. Friant came up to occupy them. All the reserve passed, and established itself on the left of the village. There remained a last retrenchment, which took us in flank and commanded our posi-The reserve had taken one, tion. it thought that it could take another. Caulincourt advanced, and spread far and wide confusion and death. He falls suddealy on the redoubt, and gets possession of it. A soldier hidden in an embrasure stretched him dead. . He slept the sleep of the brave; he was not a witness of our disasters.

" Every thing was in flight;

the fire had ceased, the carnage had paused. General Belliard went to reconnoitre a wood situated at some distance. perceived the road which converged on us; it was covered with troops and convoys, which If they had were retreating. been intercepted, all the right of the enemy's army had been taken in the segment in which it was placed. He came and informed Murat of it. 'Run and give an account of it to the Emperor,' said the Prince. He went, but Napoleon did not think the moment come. 'I do not see sufficiently clear on my chess-board; l expect news from Poniatowski. Return, examine, come back.' The General returned, indeed, but it was too late. The Russian guard was advancing; infantry, cavalry, all were coming up to renew the attack. The General had only time to collect a few pieces of cannon. 'Grape-shot, grape-shot, and nothing but grapeshot,' he said to the artillerymen. The firing began: its effect was terrible: in one instant the ground was covered with dead. shattered column was dissipated like a shadow. It did not fire one shot. Its artillery arrived a few moments after; we got possession The battle was gained, but the firing was still terrible. The balls and shots were pouring down by my side. In the space of one hour I was struck four times; first with two shots rather slightly, then with a bullet on the left arm, which carried away the sleeve of my coat and shirt close to the skin. I was then at the head of the sixty-first regiment, which I had known in Upper Egypt. There were a few officers present

present who were there; it was rather singular to meet here. I soon received a fourth wound; a ball struck me on my left hip, and threw me headlong from my horse:—it was the twenty-second. I was obliged to quit the field of battle; I informed Marshal Ney of it, his troops were mixed with mine.

"General Dessaix, the only general of that division who was not wounded, succeeded me; a moment after he had his arm broken; Friant was not wounded till afterwards.

" I was dressed by the surgeon of Napoleon, who also came himself to visit me. 'Is it, then, always your turn? How are things going on?' 'Sire, I think you will be obliged to make your guard charge.' ' I shall take good care not to do so. do not wish to see it destroyed. I am sure to gain the battle without its taking a part.' It did not charge in effect, with the exception of thirty pieces of cannon, which did wonders.

"The day ended; fifty thousand men lay on the field of battle. A multitude of generals were killed and wounded: we had forty disabled. We made some prisoners, took some pieces of cannon: this result did not compensate for the losses which it had cost us."

General Rapp proceeds to describe the entrance into Moscow, and its conflagration. Amidst all the horrors of those scenes there is a little touch of human feeling, which would be quite refreshing, could we forget that it was exhibited by one who had shown himself utterly reckless of human life and happiness:—

1823.

"I began to be able to walk; on the 13th I went to the palace: Napoleon asked with kindness in what state my wounds were? how I was going on? He showed me the portrait of the King of Rome, which he had received at the moment we were going to begin the battle of the Moskowa. He had shown it to most of the generals. I had to carry orders; the battle began; we had other things to attend to. He wished now to make me amends: he looked for the medallion, and observed, with a satisfaction which betrayed itself in his eyes :—' My son is the finest child in France."

The miseries of the retreat of the French army from Russia are known to every one. The following are fragments of General Rapp's account of them:

"The cold, the privations, were extreme; the hour of disasters had come on us! We found our wounded lying dead on the road, and the Russians waiting for us at Viasma. At the sight of these columns the soldiers collected a remnant of energy, fell upon them, and defeated them. But we were harassed by troops animated by abundance, and by hope of plunder. At every step we were obliged to halt, and fight; we slackened our march over a wasted country, which we should have gone over with the greatest rapidity. Cold, hunger, the Cossacks,-every scourge was let The army was loose upon us. sinking under the weight of its misfortunes; the road was strewed with the dead: our sufferings exceeded imagination. How many sick and wounded generals did I meet in this terrible retreat, whom I believed that I should never E again

again see! Of this number was General Friant, whose wounds were still open; General Durosnel, who travelled with a nervous sever, almost continually delirious; and the brave General Belliard, who was wounded by a gun-shot, in the battle of the Moskowa.

" A part of the infantry crossed over (the Borysthenes), the remainder bivouacked in a little wood, on the bank where we were. We were engaged all night in getting the cannon across. last was on the ascent, when the enemy appeared. They attacked immediately, with considerable masses; we received their charges without being shaken; but our end was attained: we had no object in fighting; we retreated. We left behind a few hundreds of men, whom wounds and exhaustion had put out of a condition to follow. Poor creatures! they complained, they groaned, and called for death; it was a heart-rending sight; but what could we do? Every one was bending under the burden of life. and supported it with difficulty. I had sufficient strength to share it with others. The Russians pursued us, they wished to pass by main force. Ney received them with that vigour, that impetuosity, which he always displayed in his attacks: they were repulsed, and the bridge became a prev The firing ceased, to the flames. we withdrew during the night. I joined Napoleon at Smolensko the day after the next in the even-He knew that a ball had grazed my head, and that another had killed my horse; he observed to me, 'You may be at ease now, you will not be killed this campaign.'- 'I hope that your Ma-

jesty may not be decrived; but you often gave the same assurance to poor Lannes, who nevertheless was killed.'—' No! no! you will not be killed.'—' I believe it; but I may be still frozen to death.' - - -

- - - " Napoleon marched on foot at the head of his guard, and often talked of Ney; he called to mind his coup d'æil so accurate and true, his courage proof against every thing, in short all the qualities which made him so brilliant on the field of battle.—'He is Well! I have three hundred millions in the Tuileries, I would give them if he were restored to me.'—He fixed his headquarters at Dombrowna. lodged with a Russian lady who had the courage not to abandon her house. I was on duty that day: the Emperor sent for me towards one o'clock in the morning; he was very much dejected; it was difficult for him not to be so: the scene was frightful. observed to me, 'My affairs are going on very badly; these poor soldiers rend my heart; I cannot, however, relieve them.'-There was a cry of 'To arms!'—Firing was heard; every thing was in an uproar. 'Go, see what it is,' Napoleon said to me with the greatest sang-froid; 'I am sure that they are some rogues of Cossacks who want to hinder us from sleeping.' It was, in reality, a false alarm. - - -

--- "Napoleon despaired of ever seeing the rear-guard. Neither did we see any more the Russian infantry; it was probable that they had taken some position: they ought to have let nothing escape. The next day we pushed on two leagues farther; farther: we halted in a wretched hamlet. It was there that the Emperor learned, towards the evening, of Ney's arrival, and his having joined the fourth corps. It may be easily conceived what joy he experienced, and in what manner he received the Marshal on the next day."

6. The Military Exploits, &c. &c. of Don Juan Martin Diez, the Empecinado: trunslated by a General Officer.

John Martin Diez was born in September 1775, in the town of Castrillo de Duero, near Valladolid, in Old Castile. " His parents, John and Lucy, were respected peasants, descended from persons of the same class; and John Martin, from his infancy, seemed destined to pursue the same course of life as his forefathers. By labouring in the fields he acquired great bodily strength, and gave early proof of the desire he felt to employ it in the service of his country; for, before he had attained his sixteenth year, he ran away from his family, and enlisted. He was, however discharged, at the earnest entreaties of his parents, upon the fair plea of his being under age.

"His father, it seems, died at the very moment that war was proclaimed against France, at the commencement of the French Revolution. John Martin following the dictates of his heart, resolved to be a soldier, and instantly volunteered his services during the term of the war.

was admitted as a private into the regiment of *Dragoons of Spain*, in which he served until the peace; and was always distinguished for his gallantry in the field, and for his subordination and regularity in quarters.

"At the close of the war he was discharged, and returned to his home: soon after, he married Catalina de la Fuente, and went to live in the town of Fuentecen, two leagues from Castrillo, and there resumed the labours of the field.

" Here he acquired the nickname of Empecinado; and here he was when the first division of Napoleon's troops entered Spain.

"From the knowledge he had acquired, during the war, of the character of the French, he conceived towards them the most inveterate antipathy: this was very soon made manifest to his neighbours; for as early as the year 1807, his sense of duty and obedience to the orders of government alone restrained his ardour. and prevented his commencing warfare upon these pretended allies. He continually declared these sentiments in his own and the neighbouring towns; and endeavoured to prove that the French troops ought at that moment to have been considered enemies to the country. When he was told that King Ferdinand had passed through Aranda de Duero, he was heard to say, ' The French are an infumous people; Napoleon is the worst among them; and, if Ferdinand once enters France, he will never get out of it, until we go

E 2

The inhabitants of Castrillo de Duero are indiscriminately called so, in consequence of a very black mud being found in a little stream there; but Empecinado became the nickname of Martin Diez purely in consequence of his celebrity. and

and fetch him.' This spirited conduct and correct opinion seemed to portend that he was one of those Spaniards destined by Providence to espouse the cause of his country, to defend her, and to free her from the slavery with which she was threatened by the

despot of France.

The instant it was known that King Ferdinand was at Bayonne, the Empecinado determined to make war against the French; and at the close of the month of March, having persuaded two of his neighbours to accompany him, he took the field, and thus most justly acquired the title of the first proclaimer of national liberty. One of his two companions was a boy of sixteen years old, Juan Garcia, of the town of Cuevas, near to Castrillo.

"He took post upon the highroad from France to Madrid, close to the village of Onrubia, four leagues from Aranda de Duero, conceiving this spot well calculated for the purpose of intercepting the French couriers. In a few hours he got possession of the correspondence of a courier, who escaped only by the fleetness of his horse, but who left behind him the guide and letter-bags.

"A few days afterwards he intercepted and killed another courier, and thus supplied himself

with a horse and arms."

At first we find this intrepid chief, with twelve or fifteen companions, undertaking the most dashing affairs; and at last he is seen at the head of from 1500 to 5000 brave men, facing the strongest columns of the enemy in the field, baffling armies sent to surround him, shutting up garrisons, and cutting off supplies,

by an activity which seemed to quadruple his force, and make the name of Empecinado a shield to the people and a terror to their invaders.

"Amongst the early and bold operations of this chief, one in particular deserves notice, the capture of a convoy, in which was a carriage conveying a female relation or friend of Marshal Mon-This coach was escorted by twelve soldiers, in the centre of two columns of six thousand men each, about a mile asunder. Empecinado, with eight of his people, was concealed close to the town of Caravias. He allowed the leading column to pass, then boldly rushed upon the convoy, put to death the whole of the escort, seized and carried off the carriage; and when the alarm was given, Martin and his prize were in safety in the mountains, and he effectually eluded the long and strict search which was made after him. He was only able to save the life of one of the men servants and of the lady, whom he not only saved, but, as she was with child, he sent her to his own house that she might receive care and attention. The convoy turned out a prize of great value; it consisted of money, some jewels, and a variety of ornamental trinkets for women, military effects, such as officers' epaulets, gold and silver lace, and sword-blades. Martin divided a great portion of these things amongst his men; he took a share himself; but he reserved for the government the principal part, which he placed at the disposal of General Cuesta, Salamanca; thus giving an unequivocal proof of his disinterested feelings, for an order had been

been issued by the government (the central junta), that every thing taken from the enemy by the patriot parties should exclusively belong to them."

Gradually acquiring strength, the Empecinado at length passed into the province of Guadalaxara, acting as a general at his own discretion, and made the vicinity of Madrid the theatre of his incredible exertions.

The following answer of Martin to an intriguing letter of General Hugo, a renegade Spaniard, inviting him over to the side of King Joseph, is remarkable.

"SIR,—I value as I ought the opinion you have formed of me; I have formed a very bad one of you: nevertheless if you sincerely repent your atrocities, and tired of being a slave you wish to recover your liberty in the service of a free nation, valiant as she is generous, the Empecinado offers you his protection.

"That Massena and his army surrendered on the 4th of November last, would seem to admit of no doubt; but allowing it to be untrue, certain it is that if he has not already perished, he will soon be destroyed; for fortune, his mother, has for a long time turned her back upon him.

"There is little doubt that the actual state of things must soon terminate, for it appears that all the nations of Europe are combined against the French: however, without that circumstance, Spain has always had and now particularly has more force, energy, and constancy, than are required merely to humble the legions of your king.

"Corrupt and venal men alone can find in your Joseph, the First King of Madrid! those qualities

which you suppose him to have—
if he be so good a man, why does
he commit and suffer to be committed such atrocities? A proud
and perfidious usurper can never
be a good man! The Spaniards who
take part with the brother of Napoleon must be very few, but, if
there were many, they must always
be the vilest and most detestable;
the sound part of the nation,
which is the great majority, and
which constitutes her strength,
abhors and detests even the very
name of a Frenchman.

"I am quite astonished at your holding out and breathing sentiments of humanity! Publish your humanity at Guadalaxara, Siguenza, Huete, Cefuentes, Frillo, Douon, Ita, in the towns of the valleys, in short in every village and spot that has had the misfortune to be visited by either you or your soldiers! will they believe you? and I who have witnessed your deeds, how am I to credit your words?

" In vain do you labour if you think to dissuade either me or any of my soldiers from our honourable undertaking; be well assured that so long as one single soldier of mine is alive, the war will be carried on: they have all, in imitation of their chief, sworn eternal war against Napoleon and those vile slaves who follow him. you please, you may tell your king and your brethren in arms, that the Empecinado and his troops will die in defence of their country.

"They never can unite themselves to men debased, without bonour, without faith, and without religion of any kind! Be good enough to cease to write to me.

"I am the Empecinado."

Of: the nature of his escapes
and

and adventures, the following will afford an idea:

"On the 6th of February the enemy advanced against Siguenza, but our chief beat them back to Mirabueno, where they were reinforced; and upon the 7th they marched again upon Siguenza. An action commenced upon the heights of Rebollar, and a heavy column of cavalry, profiting by a momentary confusion in a part of the line of Spanish infantry, made a desperate charge and took above one thousand prisoners. chief was not in that part of the line where this occurred, but immediately repaired to it in the hope of remedying the evil, when he was recognized by the perjured corps of Spaniards under the orders of the infamous Villagarcia, who rushed upon him, and he was only able to save himself by the desperate means of throwing himself down a precipice; preferring even that sort of death to falling into the hands of the renegade Spaniards.

" He was saved; but the consequence of his fall was a severe illness, which obliged him to go to Monterigo, Almadovar, and Arcos, for the recovery of his health. He was driven from one town to another by the enemy, when they discovered where he was ; however he escaped their

persecution. - - -

"Our general was celebrated for taking as bold a part in every enterprise and battle that was fought, as the bravest soldier of his division; and in this affair he gave a signal proof of the attachment he felt for every individual of it: one of his trumpeters, who was made prisoner and was guarded by three dragoons, called out to him, 'General, I was once in Joseph's service, they are going to shoot me.' He instantly rushed alone upon this party like lightning, and set at liberty the prisoner: two officers of French dragoons, who knew the person of the Empecinado, charged at bim; the first who came up he shot dead, and whilst resisting the attack of the other, some of his own soldiers came up, and the second officer shared the fate of his companion. - - -

"On the 14th he returned to Guadalaxara, and the following day the garrison surrendered to him; on the 16th he took possession of that city, which for three years had been the focus of the banditti who had been persecuting

"The surrender of this place enabled the Empecinado to equip his corps brilliantly; grenadier caps, accoutrements, caps for the infantry, clothing; in short his division put on the appearance of

highly-dressed soldiers."

These extracts show how the Emperinado was incessantly employed for the five or six years during which he contended for the freedom of his native land. Of so extraordinary a man we are desirous to know as much as possible, and we are induced to copy the portrait of a hero equal to Grecian fame.

The Empecinado "is a little above the middle stature, with a firmly knit and muscular frame, which indicates a capability of sustaining privation and fatigue: his complexion is dark, his beard strong and of a sable hue, his eyes black, animated, and sparkling. His mental powers are strong, and calm in acting, and both clear and quick in perceiving. Of this superiority he has given unequivocal

unequivocal proofs in the high military talent he displayed; for he is active, enterprising, judicious; and by his personal example inspiring the brave with heroism, and the timid with resolution—in his letters—in his celebrated address to the king-and in the manner in which he has borne adversity, calumny and prosperity. The qualities of his heart are of a corresponding stamp. - - - He raised and organized an army without money and without support, when surrounded by an active enemy; and, though exposed to great and various difficulties, and embarrassed by envy, jealousy, intrigue, and mutiny, he was victorious over the experienced commanders and disciplined legions of hostile France.

:

şį

í

į

:2

3

٠:

Ċ:

ri.

11

•

7

7

ţ,

7. Life of William Davison, Secretary of State, and Privy Counsellor to Queen Elizabeth. By N. H. Nicholas, Esq. 8vo.

The following letters, extracted from the above work, afford a more convincing proof than has before been published, that James was not only no party to, but a strenuous opposer of the iniquitous deed of the execution of his While the wary Secremother. tary only preferred the ostensibly legal assassination at l'otheringay, for which he did not expect to be made responsible, to the deep damnation of that secret taking off for which Elizabeth was so anxious, and which would infallibly have been visited upon the heads of its immediate agents as scape-goats for royalty, the King of Scotland interfered with all the ardour of filial piety to save his devoted parent. The following are literal copies of his letters, made from the originals, and unquestionably the most interesting features in the present volume:

" To Maister Archibald Douglas.

October 1586.

" Reserve up youreself na longer in the earnist dealing for my mother, for ye have done it to long, and thinke not that any youre travells can do goode, if hir lyfe be taikin, for then adeu with my dealing with thaime that are the speciall instrumentis thairof, and thairfore gif ye look for the contineuance of my favoure touarcis you, spaire na painis nor plainnes in this cace, bot reid my lettir wrettin to william Keith, and conforme youreself quhollie to the contentis thairof, & in this requeist lett me reape the fruictis of youre great credit thaire, ather now or never, fairwell.

" James R."

"A Madame ma tres chere sœur et cousine la royne d'angleterre.

" Madame, and dearest sister, if ye coulde have knouin quhas divers thochtis have agitat my mynde since my directing of William Keith unto you, for the sollisting of this matter quhairto nature and honor so greatly and unfeynedly bindis and obleissis me; If, I say, ye kneu quhat dyvers thochtis I have bene in, and quhat iust greif I hadd usying deeply the thing itself, if so it should proceid, as godd forbidd, quhat eventis micht follou thairupon, quhat number of straitis I uold be drevin unto, &, amongst the rest, hou it micht perrell my reputation amongst my subjects; If thaise thingis, I yett say againe, nayre knouin unto you, then doubt doubt I not but ye wold so farr pittie my cace, as it wold easely mak you at the first to resolve your ouin [mind] best unto it. doubt greatlie in quhat facon to writt in this purpois, for ye have allreaddie taken sa evill with my playnness, as I feare if I shall persist in that course ye shall rather be exasperattit to passionis in reading the wordis then by the plainness thairof be persuadit to consider richtlie the simple treuth, yett iustlie prefferring the deutie of ane honest freind to the suddaine passionis of one, quho hou soone they be past can uyslier uey the reasonis then I can sett I have resolvid thaime doune. in feu uordis & plaine, to gif you freindly and best advyce, appealing to youre rypest judgement to discerne thairupon: quhat thing, Madame, can greatlier touche me in honoure that both is a kinge & a sonne, then that my nearest neihboure, being in straittest freindshipp with me, shall rigouruslie putt to death a free souveraigne prince, & my naturall mother, alyke in estaite and sexe to hir that so uses hir, albeit subiect, I grant, to a harder fortoune, and touching hir nearlie in proximitie of bloode; quhat law of godd can permitt that justice shall strikke upon thaime quhom he hes appointid supreame dispensatouis of the same under him, quhom he hath callid goddis, &, thairfore, subjected to the censoure of none in earth, quhose anointing by godd cannot be defylid be man unrevenged by the authoure thairof, quho being supreme & immediatt lieutenantis of godd in heaven, cannot thairefoire be judgit by thaire sequallis in earth; quat monstruouse thinge is it, that

souveraigne princes thaimeselfis shoulde be the exemple giveris of thaire ouen sacred diademes prophaining, then quhat shoulde move you to this forme of proceiding (supposin the worst, qubiche in goode faith I looke not for at your handis,) honoure or profeitt; honoure waire it to you to spaire quhen it is least lookid for; honoure waire it to you (quhich is not onlie my friendlie advyce but my earnist suite) to tak me & all other princes in europe eternally beholdin unto you, in granting this my so reasonable request, & not (appardon I pray you my free speaking) to putt princes to ' straittis of honoure, quhair throuch youre generall reputation & the universal (almost) mislyking of you, may daingerouslieperrell both in honoure & utillitie your personne & estate : ye knou, Madame, uell aneuch hou small difference cicero concludis to be betwixt utile & honestum in his discourse thairof, and quhiche of thaime oucht to be framed to the other; & nou, madame, to concluide, I pray you so to ney thir feu argumentis, that as I ever presumed of youre nature, so the quhole worlde may praise your subjectis. for their deutifull caire for your preservation, & youreself for youre princelie pittie, the doing quhairof enlie belangis unto you, the parforming quhairof onlie apparteynis unto you, & the praise thairof onlie will ever be youris: respect then, goode sister, this my first so long contineuid & so earnist request, dispatching my ambassadouis with suche a comfortable ansoure as may become your persone to give, & as my loving & honest hairt unto you meritis to ressave; but in kaice any do vaunt

of my mynde in this matter, then my ambassadouis do, quho indeid are fullie aquentid thairwith. pray you not to takk me to be a cameleon, but by the contrairie, thaime to be maliciouse imposteuris as suirlie thay are; and thus praying you hairtlie to excuse my to ruide and longsum lettir, I committ you, madame, and dearest sister, to the blessid protection of the most hie, quho mott give you grace so to resolve in this maitter, as may be honorabill for you, and most acceptable to him: from my palleis, of holi-· rudhouse, the 26 day of Januarie, 1586.—Youre most loving & affectionate brother & cousin,

"JAMES R."

8. An Authentic Narrative of the last hours of Sir Walter Rawleighi From Mr. D'Israeli's Work.

"The close of the life of Sir Walter Rawleigh was as extraordinary as many parts of his varied history: the promptitude and sprightliness of his genius, his carelessness of life, and the equanimity of that great spirit in quitting the world, can only be paralleled by a few other heroes and sages: -- Rawleigh was both! But it is not simply his dignified yet active conduct on the scaffold, nor his admirable speech on that occasion, circumstances by which many great men are judged, when their energies are excited for a moment to act so great a part, before the eyes of the world assembled at their feet-it is not these only which claim our notice.

"We may pause with admiration on the real grandeur of Raw-

vaunt thaimselfis to know further leigh's character; not from a single circumstance, however great, but from a tissue of continued little incidents, which occurred from the moment of his condemnation till he laid his head on the block. Rawleigh was a man of such mark, that he deeply engaged the attention of his contemporaries; and to this we owe the preservation of several interesting particulars of what he did and what he said, which have entered into his life; but all has not been told in the published narratives. Contemporary writers in their letters have set down every fresh incident, and eagerly caught up his sense, his wit, and, what is more delightful, those marks of the natural cheerfulness of his invariable presence of mind: nor could these have arisen from any affectation or parade, for we shall see that they served him even in his last tender farewell to bis lady, and on many unpremeditated occasions.

" I have drawn together into a short compass every fact concerning the feelings and conduct of Rawleigh at these solemn moments of his life, which my researches have furnished, not omitting those which are known: to have preserved only the new, would be to mutilate the statue. and to injure the whole by an imperfect view.

"Rawleigh one morning was taken out of his bed, in a fit of fever, and unexpectedly hurried, not to his trial, but to a sentence of death. The story is well known.-Yet pleading with 'a voice grown weak by sickness, and an ague he had at that instant on him,' he used every means to avert his fate: he did, therefore,

value

value the life he could so easily part with. His judges there, at least, respected their state criminal, and they addressed him in a far different tone than he had fifteen years before listened to from Yelverton, the attorneygeneral, said,—' Sir Walter Rawleigh hath been as a star at which the world have gazed; but stars may fall, nay, they must fall, when they trouble the sphere where they abide.' And the lord chief justice noticed Rawleigh's great work :-- 'I know that you have been valiant and wise, and I doubt not but you retain both these virtues, for now you shall have occasion to use them. Your book is an admirable work: I would give you counsel, but I know you can apply unto yourself far better than I am able to give you.' But the judge ended with saying, 'execution is granted.' It was stifling Rawleigh with roses; and it was listening to fame from the voice of death.

"He declared, that now being old, sickly, and in disgrace, and certain were he allowed to live, to go to it again, life was wearisome to him, and all he intreated was to have leave to speak freely at his farewell, to satisfy the world that he was ever loyal to the king, and a true lover of the commonwealth: for this he would seal with his blood."

"Rawleigh, on his return to his prison, while some were deploring his fate, observed, that 'the world itself is but a larger prison, out of which some are daily selected for execution.'

"That last night of his existence was occupied by writing what the letter-writer calls 'a remembrancer to be left with his

lady,' to acquaint the world with his sentiments, should he be denied their delivery from the scaffold, as he had been at the bar of the King's Bench. His lady visited him that night, and amidst her tears acquainted him, that she had obtained the favour of disposing of his body; to which be answered smiling, 'It is well, Bess, that thou mayst dispose of that dead, thou hadst not always the disposing of when it was alive.' At midnight he intreated her to leave him. It must have been then that, with unshaken fortitude, Rawleigh sat down to compose those verses on his death, which being short, the most appropriate may be repeated.

"Even such is Time, that takes on trust Our youth, our joys, our all we have, And pays us but with age and dust;

Who in the dark and silent grave, When we have wander'd all our ways, Shuts up the story of our days!"

He has added two other lines expressive of his trust in his resur-Their authenticity is confirmed by the writer of the present letter, as well as another writer, inclosing 'half a dozen verses, which Sir Walter made the night before his death, to take his farewell of poetry, wherein he had been a scribbler even from his youth.' The inclosure is not now with the letter. Chamberlain, the writer, was an intelligent man of the world, but not imbued with any deep tincture of literature. On the same night Rawleigh wrote this distich on the candle burning dimly:

"Cowards fear to die; but courage stout, Rather than live in snuff, will be put out." At this solemn moment, beforehe lay down to rest, and at the instant of parting from his lady, with all his domestic affections still

still warm, to express his feelings in verse was with him a natural effusion, and one to which he had It is peculiar long been used. in the fate of Rawleigh, that having before suffered a long imprisonment with an expectation of a public death, his mind had been accustomed to its contemplation, and had often dwelt on the event which was now passing. soul, in its sudden departure, and its future state, is often the subject of his few poems; that most original one of 'The Farewell.'

> Go soul! the body's guest, Upon a thankless errand, &c.

is attributed to Rawleigh, though on uncertain evidence. But another, entitled 'The Pilgrimage,' has this beautiful passage:

;

:

"Give me my scallop shell of quiet,
My staff of truth to walk upon,
My scrip of joy immortal diet;
My bottle of salvation;
My gown of glory, Hope's true gage;
And thus I'll take my pilgrimage—
Whilst my soul, like a quiet Palmer,
Travelleth towards the land of Heaven."

"Rawleigh's cheerfulness was so remarkable, and his fearlessness of death so marked, that the Dean of Westminster, who attended him, at first wondering at the hero, reprehended the lightness of his manner; but Rawleigh gave God thanks that he had never feared death, for it was but an opinion and an imagination; and as for the manner of death, he had rather die so than of a burning fever; and that some might have made shows outwardly, but he felt the The Dean says, that joy within. he made no more of his death than if he had been to take a journey; 'Not,' said he, 'but that I am a great sinner, for I

have been a soldier, a seaman, and a courtier.' The writer of a manuscript letter tells us, that the Dean declared he died not only religiously, but he found him to be a man as ready and as able to give as to take instruction.

" On the morning of his death he smoked, as usual, his favourite tobacco, and when they brought him a cup of excellent sack, being asked how he liked it, Rawleigh answered, 'As the fellow, that, drinking of St. Giles's bowl, as he went to Tyburn, said, 'that was good drink if a man might tarry by it.' The day before, in passing from Westminster-hall to the Gate-house, his eye had caught Sir Hugh Beeston in the throng. and calling on him, requested that he would see him die to-morrow. Sir Hugh, to secure himself a seat on the scaffold, bad provided himself with a letter to the sheriff. which was not read at the time. and Sir Walter found his friend thrust by, lamenting that he could 'Farewell!' exnot get there. claimed Rawleigh, 'I know not what shift you will make, but I am sure to have a place.' In going from the prison to the scaffold, among others who were pressing hard to see him, one old man, whose head was bald, came very forward, insomuch Rawleigh noticed him, and asked, 'whether he would have aught of him?' The old man answered, ' Nothing but to see him, and to pray to God for him.' Rawleigh replied, 'I thank thee, good friend, and I am sorry I have no better thing to return thee for thy good will.' Observing his bald head, he continued, 'but take this night-cap, (which was a very rich wrought one that he wore) for thou hast more need of it now than I.'

"His dress, as was usual with him, was elegant, if not rich. Oldys describes it, but mentions, that 'he had a wrought night-cap under his hat,' which we have otherwise disposed of; his ruff-band, a black wrought velvet night-gown over a hair-coloured satin doublet, and a black wrought waistcoat; black cut taffety breeches, and ash-coloured silk

stockings.

" He ascended the scaffold with the same cheerfulness he had passed to it; and observing the lords seated at a distance, some at windows, he requested they would approach him, as he wished what he had to say they should all wit-This request was complied with by several. His speech is well known; but some copies contain matters not in others. When he finished, he requested Lord Arundel that the king would not suffer any libels to defame bim after death-' And now I have long journey to go, and must take my leave.' 'He embraced all the lords and other friends with such courtly compliments, as if he had met them at some feast,' says a letter-writer. Having taken off his gown, he called to the heads-man to show him the axe, which not being instantly done, he repeated, 'I prithee let me see it. Dost thou think that I am afraid of it?' He passed the edge lightly over his finger, and smiling, observed to the sheriff, 'This is a sharp medicine, but a sound cure for all diseases,' and kissing it, laid it down. Another writer has, 'This is that, that will cure all sorrows.' After this, he went to three

several corners of the scaffold. and kneeling down, desired all the people to pray for him, and recited a long prayer to himself. When he began to fit himself for the block, he first laid himself down to try how the block fitted him; after rising up, the executioner kneeled down to ask his forgiveness, which Rawleigh with an embrace did, but intreated him not to strike till he gave a token by lifting up his hand, ' and then, fear not, but strike home!" When he laid his head down to receive the stroke, the executioner desired him to lay his face towards 'It was no great matthe east. ter which way a man's head stood, so the heart lay right,' said Rawleigh; but these were not his last He was once more to speak in this world with the same intrepidity he had lived in it—for, having lain some minutes on the block in prayer, he gave the signal; but the executioner, either unmindful, or in fear, failed to strike, and Rawleigh, after once or twice putting forth his hands, was compelled to ask him, 'Why dost thou not strike? Strike. man!' In two blows he was beheaded; but from the first, his body never shrunk from the spot, by any discomposure of his posture, which, like his mind, was immoveable.

"In all the time he was upon the scaffold, and before,' says one of the manuscript letter-writers, 'there appeared not the least alteration in him, either in his voice or countenance; but he seemed as free from all manner of apprehension as if he had been come thither rather to be a spectator than a sufferer;—nay, the beholders seemed much more sensible than did did he, so that he hath purchased here in the opinion of men such honour and reputation, as it is thought his greatest enemies are they that are most sorrowful for his death, which they see is like to turn so much to his advantage.'

" The people were deeply affected at the sight, and so much, that one said, that 'we had not such another head to cut off:' and another 'wished the head and brains to be upon Secretary Naunton's shoulders.' The observer suffered for this; he was a wealthy citizen, and great newsmonger, and one who haunted Paul's Walk. Complaint was made, and the citizen summoned to the privycouncil. He pleaded that he intended no disrespect to Mr. Secretary; but only spake in reference to the old proverb, that ' two heads were better than one!' His excuse was allowed at the moment; but when afterwards called on for a contribution to St. Paul's cathedral, and having subscribed a hundred pounds, the Secretary observed to him, that ' two are better than one, Mr. Wiemark!' either from fear or charity the witty citizen doubled his subscription.

"Thus died this glorious and gallant cavalier, of whom Osborne says, 'His death was managed by him with so high and religious a resolution, as if a Roman had acted a Christian, or rather a Christian a Roman.'

"After having read the preceding article, we are astonished at the greatness, and the variable nature of this extraordinary man, and this happy genius. With Gibbon, who once meditated to write his life, we may pause, and pronounce 'his character is

ambiguous;' but we shall not hesitate to decide, that Rawleigh knew better how to die than to live. 'His glorious hours,' says a contemporary, 'were his arraignment and execution;' but never will be forgotten the intermediate years of his lettered imprisonment!"

9. Memoirs of the Baron de Kolli, relative to his Secret Mission, in 1810, for liberating Ferdinand VII. from Captivity at Valençay.

These partake of the interest of Baron Trenck's Memoirs, but involve still more important considerations.

The condition of Ferdinand VII. while a prisoner at Valençay, and the consequence of his presence in Spain to unite that nation in its resistance to the infamous invasion of Buonaparte, gave rise to the attempt of the British Government for his escape, in which the Baron de Kolliwas the immediate agent. Two or three selected passages from the beginning of this volume, will show that pity as well as policy must have been the source of that effort:—

" The guard of the King and the Infantas was entrusted to a staff officer, whose real functions were disguised under the title of commandant of the royal establishment; this agent of the ministers. or rather of the general police, detained the originals of all letters addressed to, or written by, his catholic majesty, and only delivered or forwarded the copies. It is easy to conceive the consequences of such a system of tyranny. On the one hand, the king could receive no news from Spain Spain that was not of a nature to give him pain, and deprive him of all hope; and on the other, the falsification of his correspondence by the police enabled it to give currency, under the king's name, to every piece of imposture which it wished to be credited, as to his situation and secret wishes. - - -

"Numerous brigades of gendarmerie were posted all round the environs of Valençay; every traveller was subjected to the most rigid examination, and the smallest irregularity in their passports occasioned the most unheard-of annoyances. I was told, that a merchant of Bourdeaux was obliged to turn back and take another road, because Fouche's myrmidons did not find that his nose was so aquiline as his passport described it.

Having received his instructions "in the middle of a volume of Marmontel, the leaves of which had been carefully pasted together," the Baron proceeded on his mission, the honour of which was even coveted by the Duke of Kent himself, one of its ardent promoters. While in London, it gives us a strange idea of such matters

to be told by the Baron.

"In order to avoid the observation of the French police, I never ventured near the Secretary of State's office, but with the greatest precaution. Our regular meetings took place at a house of the admiral's; Lord Wellesley went there only at night, without any attendants, and in a borrowed carriage. Sir George Cockburn and myself entered by a different way.

"Towards the end of January, every thing was arranged, and all the plams finally settled."

And on sailing, "Albert was also the bearer of a packet addressed to me, containing diamonds to the amount of 208,000 francs for my private emoluments, and the first expenses of my mission; for the more considerable disbursements which were likely to follow, an unlimited credit had been opened for King Ferdinand, at a Paris banker's.

"I was provided with seals and cyphers of the secretaryships of state of Buonaparte's government, French passports, feuilles de route, orders of the ministers of war and marine,\* &c. &c. all things quite indispensable for the success of such an enterprise.

"On the 28th of February,

the expedition sailed."

Under the convoy of Sir George Cockburn, the Baron was carried to the Bay of Quiberon, a convenient site for landing on the coast of France. Here, unfortunately, they encountered a Mr. Ferriet, who, though in the pay of England, was acting the double part of an agent of Buonaparte. This fellow partially penetrated the design, and betrayed it; but the full developement was reserved for a M. Richard, in whom the Baron was led to confide at Paris, a Vendean, and apparently a stanch Bourbonist.

After landing, the early parts of the Baron's toils were sufficiently difficult and perilous.

" From the 10th to the 14th of March (he tells us) I travelled above a hundred and forty leagues

<sup>&</sup>quot; All these different papers which the English ministry had procured from the best sources were blank and signed ...."

on different roads, sometimes having Albert behind, and sometimes before me.

" One of my first objects was to examine the environs of Valencay; to reconnoitre the side of the park which could be scaled; and the windows of the king's smaller apartments. I had very soon obtained the needful information, and settled in my own mind the best plan of execution; it only remained to set it a-going. I first repaired to Paris in order to receive 30,000 francs in money; from thence I despatched towards Orleans the saddle-horses which were to serve for the first relays, after the king's escape."

The other particulars of the plot it is unnecessary to relate, as they were all rendered nugatory by the treachery we have alluded to. He was arrested by the police, and, after several pumpings,

he says :

"The same day, the 8th of April 1810, I was taken back to Vincennes, which I never left for

four years afterwards.

"The strictest orders were given to interdict me from all communication with the exterior or interior, and to increase the severity of close confinement, by depriving me of paper, pens, ink, &c. &c. The keeper was enjoined to sleep in my cell, to be on his guard against my affected tranquillity, to listen to any questions, but to answer none, and finally to make an exact report of every thing."

Daily expecting death, and being subjected to the cruellest treatment, his sufferings here were horrible. Nor was he alone in this misery. France held in her various prisons at this time about 4000 prisoners of state, of whom one-fourth were of the higher classes; and the Donjon of Vincennes was not without its companionship. Strictly as the author was incarcerated, he contrived to have intercourse with some of the unfortunate inmates of that prison;—among others, the Counts de Polignac, one of them now the French ambassador in London.

" Several times (before the gaoler informed him of the desire of these loyal noblemen to visit his cell)—several times (he relates) in the course of the preceding nights, I fancied I had heard at the bars of my window a dead noise, which I attributed to an How was it possible for me to suppose that a tender solicitude was watching over me in a place so difficult for the least communication. I was ignorant of what it is possible for a noble audacity to perform; of what the desire of consolation suggests to friendly ingenuity; I was not then acquainted with Messrs. de Polignac, and knew not how much they delighted in obliging their companions in honour.

"Although my cell was more than sixty feet distant from theirs in an opposite direction, they had several times attempted to open a communication with me by means of ropes and a long pole. In the sequel, I climbed six feet from the floor of my cell, during the night, in order to reach a small bag which descended to my window, and in which our correspondence was

inclosed.

"The fruitlessness of their first attempts, far from damping their zeal, induced them to bribe our keeper, who, as he told me himself, had been unable to refuse them. Every thing was arranged, and we were about to behold each other. At the appointed time Thomas carefully opened the three doors of my cell; my two kind friends entered, and I threw myself into their arms.

"I will not attempt to describe my feelings at the sight of these illustrious prisoners. Involuntarily I caused them a moment's embarrassment.... Their refusal persuaded me that they fully excused even the intention which I had had. They informed me that as they were not in close confinement, they were enabled to avail themselves of their own resources.

"Their first act was to put me in possession of the official journal, in which was inserted the report of the minister of police to Buonsparte, relative to my mission: they also provided me with a small quantity of pens, ink, and paper, &c. and promised to furnish me with more.

"We agreed that i should, without delay, draw up a protest against the unfaithful report, and give it to them, and that they would endeavour to get it transmitted to Mr. M'Kenzie, the English commissary, who was then at Morlaix, for the proposed exchange of prisoners, both civil and military.

"As they were witnesses of my innocence, at the very time that the police were impudently committing a crime, by introducing a vile impostor in my name at Valençay, on the strength of the papers which were to prove my mission, in order to deceive King Ferdinand, and to cast him into the pit which was yet stained with the blood of a Bourbon, ... the Counts de Polignac gave me the most so-

lemn assurances that at the day of reckoning, they would bear testimony to my truth and sincerity, and if I should happen to fall before that, that they would undeceive the British government."

Many of De Kolli's fellow-sufferers sank under their miseries, and he appears to have been driven to the very verge of insanity. At one time he relates (when betrayed by a gaoler into an act which compromised him,) - - - " I was attacked by six myrmidons of the police, determined to search me thoroughly, or to main me. They were under the orders of the inspector Paques, who, with the most insulting expressions, ordered them to sabre me, if l made the least resistance. . . . . . The gendarmes advanced, and the keepers crept alongside of the wall, in order to lay hold of me by the shoulders. Up to that moment I had met silent acts of vengeance calmly, and with presence of mind: on this occasion the loss of a pocket-book, which contained valuable papers, would have affected me more sensibly, than the destruction of all my The want of a defensive hopes. weapon throwing me into a state of frenzy, I stabbed myself under the left breast with five strokes of the scissars, the only instrument which had escaped the search of the robbers. . . . I immediately fell, swimming in blood. barbarian who had driven me to this act of despair, called to me in a tone of the most cutting irony, 'Die! die! we will bury you.'"

At another time, when driven to despair by the barbarities of his gaoler:—

"One day, a state of inanition

made

made me count the hours; my exhaustion kept me lying on a damp bed ;-I felt the most devouring hunger; the distribution of the day's allowance had been made at seven o'clock in the morning to every one but me; it was past eleven, and Lerouge had not yet come; at last the sound of his footstep revived me, and I was anticipating a delicious repast on a loaf of a pound and a half! 'I will wait till I am alone. ..... I will show no impatience, or eagerness of brutal appetite.' .... On his entrance, he threw the loaf at me, swearing ... The lightning is not quicker than the fury which transported me: I saw nothing . . . . I knew not what I did .... He was stretched at my feet, with the blood running down his face: I had struck him with a piece of firewood . . . . His cries disarmed me, and brought others to his assistance; they threatened to put me in irons. reproached the commandant for the outrages to which his unheard of severity had provoked me; I called for death, and invoked the minister, by one decided blow to crown my wishes ..... and his own.

" Cruel that he was! for four years he refused me the consolation of embracing my children! I knew not if they were even in existence. But what humanity could I expect of him, who attached the fatal lantern to the breast of the Duke d'Enghien? For four years I was placed between the combats of paternal ' If you tenderness and infamy. wish to see your family,' said Dr. R \*\*\* to me, " tell us who is the correspondent of the British government; he will not be mo-1823.

lested; on the contrary, the minister will be the means of putting

money into his pocket.'

"Since my attempt to escape, I had no shoes, but sandals made out of an old hat, and wore no linen... I was offered some belonging to the prison, marked with the imperial eagle.... and was looked upon as very obstinate, because I preferred my own rags. But if there was no inconvenience in allowing me imperial shirts, what was there in allowing

me to wear my own?

"The minister of general police, who made no scruple of appropriating to himself 223,000 francs which belonged to me, was not likely to blush at speculating on the misery of the prisoners. It need not surprise us therefore, that he deprived them of a half, and in some cases of two-thirds, of the allowance that was made them by the famous decree for the installation of the state prisons."

But the Baron was not of a temper to resign himself to the weight of oppression. Not only did he afford such grounds as these for severities, but he made an extraordinary attempt at escape.

-- "On the 1st of May, 1811, I opened the works at breast height, in order that the exertion of my whole-strength might render the execution less difficult. The stone resisted, and did not yield more than an inch per day. On the 1st of June following, the hive having been completed in the whole extent of the first stone, the intervals were soon broken down, and I found less difficulty in loosening the stones of the interior.

" As I was obliged to work during the day, I ran considerable risk of a surprise, notwithstanding the quickness with which I covered the hole, when I heard the noise of doors opening. One day, when I least expected it, the commandant Gillet entered my cell, to pay me a farewell visit, and introduce me to his successor, an officer of gendarmes, then in favour, and whom M. Savary, who had long known him, considered fitter for the command of the prison. I had barely time to shake off the dust from my long beard, (which had not been shaved for four months) and to throw a lynx's skin, my only covering against the damp, over shoulders.

"The alarm into which my horrible appearance threw these gentlemen prevented them from remarking my disorder, or from entering into the little cell, where they would have seen the breach I had made. They left me, with an encouragement to expect some alleviation of my sufferings.----

"Surprised at not having yet reached the exterior lining, I measured the depth of the part I had undermined, when, to my extreme mortification, I found that the direction I had taken. which I had hitherto supposed to be perpendicular, was diagonal, and lost in the curved thickness of the northern tower. whelmed at this mistake, I should have been completely discouraged, had it not been for the habit I had contracted of always occupying myself about some plan, however chimerical, and the necessity I was under of continuing my labours, the discovery of which would, under every circumstance, have exposed me to fresh severities. I then examined the means of regaining the original direction, and of turning my first excavation to some advantage; after well considering it, I made it serve as a receptacle for the fresh rubbish, and thereby avoided the risks which I had been exposed to at the hours of promenade, by the method I had till then followed.

"At last, after six months' labour and continued precautions, the detail of which would appear tedious, I succeeded in coming to, and unloosening, the last stone of the external facing, so as to be able to draw it in at pleasure, without making any thing fall

outside.

" Never was any architect more delighted in contemplating his labours than I was, in the midst of my crater. The passage of the air through the walls gave me a degree of pleasure, perhaps superior to the joy which a man feels on his liberation from a long sla-I sat down; the desire of a heart steeped in affliction is that of offering to the Creator its first consolations, its first hopes! ... After indulging for a few moments in a delightful reverie, I repl**aced** each stone in its place in the most convenient position.

"My rope still remained to be

made.

"With the sheets which I had procured in the first days of my captivity, and which I had not yet used, I made twelve rolls, each ten feet long, and about the thickness of a finger; I joined these together by knots large enough to cling to, and strengthened at short spaces by other smaller knots.

"The night of the 24th of October,

October, 1811, was that which I fixed upon for effecting my escape, and I arranged my plan. - - -

-- "At nine o'clock the turnkey tame in as usual, and after a short visit, went about his business. My compassion, which had hitherto been silent for this old guardsman, suggested to me that my escape might have the effect of throwing him into a hut of the Bicetre, where he would be left to perish, as a punishment for his negligence.

"On the door of the cell, therefore, I wrote a few lines with chalk, exculpating him from all knowledge of my plans, or of having winked at my escape.

" All the stones were now displaced, and ranged along the ground, the outside one excepted; a small piece of plaster fell at the foot of the Donjon, close to where the commandant was standing; but he supposed it could only be occasioned by the wind, knowing the strength of the Donion, and the weakness of its inhabitants, too well to entertain any other idea . . . . As for me, I threw myself upon my knees, and prayed to God for the necessary support, and, if my last hour was come, that he would receive me into His mercy, with the martyrs who had preceded me in the cause of honour. With a conscience less pure than theirs. I had reason for apprehension; but that only served to make my faith the stronger. With my heart calm, I arose, and prepared to launch myself . . . . . even into eternity.

"My appearance sufficiently resembled that of a common

workman, had it not been for a beard of ten inchés long; as I had no means of getting rid of it, and could not burn it without risk. I determined to pull it out by the rocas. . . . . . The horrible punishments which were formerly inflicted on felons and perjarers bore no comparison to that which I thus voluntarily added to the cruelties that were devised by the creatures of a tyrannical government!!!.... It was done . . . . . The outside stone was removed . . . . the rope unrolled, but it was too short, and I lengthened it: I was now suspended, the rope appeared to yield, and the oscillation carried me a good way out, but, secured against all chances, I held fast, and reached the ground safe!

"It had just struck four in the morning on the platform of the drawbridge; I dragged myself to the part of the prison I have déscribed, and laid hold of a tray for carrying mortar. If I had gone a few steps farther. I should have found a port-hole window quite open, through which I could have descended into the ditch, and then ascended through a staircase which would have led me out; but as I was then quite ignorant of that part of its topography, I returned to the other end, and sat down at a little gate which separated the two courts: Turk and Rustaut\*, two watch-dogs, ran up from the other side. I threw them some provisions through an opening under the gate; they immediately recognized me as the friend, who for the last six months, at the hours of promenade, had

<sup>&</sup>quot; One of these dogs had been the means of baffling an attempt of Count Julius de Polignac to escape from the Temple."

shared his allowance with them, and, being accustomed to the caresses of poor people, they remained perfectly quiet. At last day appeared, and I heard the workmen passing and repassing; I took advantage of the moment, passed through the principal gate without remark, (thanks to my ragged appearance,) and advanced to the gate of the little drawbridge. The turnkey came out-examined me -hesitated. . . I might have knocked him down, taken the key from him, gone out, and locked it behind me. . . . . be asked me a question, which I answered boldly . . . and he was just going to turn the key, when some real masons came up, and by their inquisitive looks, sealed the unfortunate issue of my attempt.\*

" I was immediately dragged to the commandant's apartments: he jumped out of bed; heard what they told him, could scarcely believe his eyes; stormed, abused some, and accused others of treachery . . . . and did me the favour to tell me in vulgar terms, 'You did very wrong to miss your aim, for you will not have such another opportunity for a long time.' I asked him to give me a glass of brandy, and he made haste to get it me himself.

" While they were preparing a place of greater security for me, I was put into the chesnut stove (that is the name given by the unfortunate Mazeras de Latude to the ground floor of the western tower, near the modern passage to the dungeons;) I did not remain there more than an hour, an order hav-

ing come to instal me at the top of the Donjon, under the platform, in the secret cell of the

eastern tower † - - -

"Since Providence has been pleased to work a double miracle in my favour, I have often thought of the wretchedness of mind, which at Saint Helena must have worn out the life of that Bonaparte, all whose actions had in view only the object of the moment, whose maxim was Possess for ever, whose contempt of life never went so far as to teach him how to die . . . . Pride was strong enough in him to stifle conscience. But may God forgive him, who dying, humble, and deprived of the embraces of his son, dropped a tear to nature, and appeared to forget his frail grandeur!"

The victories of the Allies, which led to his overthrow, gave to our author his liberty; but he was previously, with others (even in the heat of the war about Paris,) transported to Soumer.

"At last, on the 16th of April, at noon, the doors of the prison were opened, the clanking of chains ceased to be heard, and the cry of 'Long live the Bourbons!' was the only one that rang through the sepulchral vaults. It would be vain for me to attempt a description of this scene, which will never be banished from my memory. In the intoxication and tears of joy, every one threw himself into the arms of his neighbour, and pressed him to his heart; forty individuals, hitherto strangers to each other, were in

"The mason to whom this was principally owing, fell ill of vexation. I was told in 1814, that he never would return again to work at the Donjon.'

<sup>+ &</sup>quot; From that moment I passed for dead; the police spread the report of it generally, and my poor children, who were then very young, put mourning on for me."

one moment bound to each other by the ties of the most tender

friendship.

"At the moment of our release, the inhabitants of the Frenchmen, liberated from the tyranny which had hitherto repressed their feelings, eagerly surrounded us, and without the least regard to our wretched appearance, dragged us into the bosom of their families, and in one day made us experience the transition from an excess of misery to affluence and plenty. will never diminish the gratitude I feel towards the persons who took charge of me, and I only regret that I am not allowed to name them here."

Having gone thus far, we must condense into a summary the rest of the interesting points touched upon in this volume. By a refinement in political trickery, the French government had procured the traitor Richard to personate their prisoner and endeavour to entrap Ferdinand at Valençay. would produce the two-fold effect of destroying the real agent, and of discovering the king's wishes and intentions. The design failed, for Ferdinand was alarmed and would not trust the sham liberator: the documents then palmed on the world as official were fabricated and published in the Moniteur! ?!

In England, on his return, the Baron was honourably treated: he then visited Madrid, and received the distinction of noble knighthood from the king of Spain, and a grant of 100,000 crowns on the Havannah, of which succeeding events robbed him. Proceed-

ing from Madrid to Paris to reclaim his property, the jewels, &c. seized at his arrest, he fell upon the disorganization of the hundred days, and joined the Duchess of Angouleme and royalists at Bordeaux. In a desperate action he was taken prisoner and carried to Boulogue where again death seemed to be inevitable. But being reclaimed as a Spanish officer, some delay intervened; and it was not till

"On the 1st of June, an order arrived to consider us no longer as soldiers, but to transfer us to the prison of the criminal and civil tribunal of the department, to be there tried as citizens taken in arms, and in the act of rebellion upon the territory of the empire. That measure, which was calculated to make us then rather uneasy, was the means of our escaping certain death."

And the relation continues:

"The battle of Waterloo, by restoring her king and princes to France, was the second miracle to which millions of victims owed

their preservation.

"As soon as the legitimate authority was recognized by the local authorities, I was liberated from prison, and, accompanied by my officers, repaired without loss of time to the French headquarters at St. John de Luz. Our general in chief, the duke of Damas, delivered me the command of my regiment, which immediately entered Bayonne, and was selected to occupy the citadel. Strange vicissitude of fortune! I was now the commander in a place where only a day or two before I was a prisoner ?"

10. Royal Naval Biography. Lieut. John Marshall, (B.) R.N.

Anecdote of Lord Exmouth.-" The wife of Rovere, one of the French deputies banished to Cayenne, was taken on her passage by our officer. She had sold all her property in France for the purpose of joining her unhappy husband, and had with her 3000% sterling. Sir Edward restored it to her, and paid his crew their share out of his own pocket."

Bonoparte.—"After the surrender of the French army, Sir W. SidneySmith visited the HolyCity, where the following anecdote of Bonaparte was related to him by the superior of a convent: When General Dumas had advanced with a detachment of the French army within a few leagues of Jerusalem, he sent to his Commander-in-Chief for leave make an attack upon that place. Bonaparte replied, that ' when he had taken Acre, he would come in person and plant the tree of liberty in the very spot where Christ suffered: and that the first French soldier who fell in the attack, should be buried in the Holy Sepulchre.' Sir W. Sidney Smith was the first Christian ever suffered by the barbarians to go into Jerusalem armed, or even to enter it in the dress of a Frank; his followers, and all who visited it by his means, were allowed the same privilege."

In the memoir of Admiral Curzon, a note tells of the gallantry of another branch of that family, in a different service :

" At the celebrated battle of Waterloo, the Hon. William Curzon, son of the present peer, and Dep. Ass Adj. Gen. to the army in the Netherlands, displayed the most chivalrous ardour. Riding

along the field with Lord March, he received a ball in his chest. ' Farewell, dear March!' said he, as he fell to the ground. companion was not permitted to perform those tender offices which his heart dictated. A furious onset of cuirassiers called him to his post and his wounded friend. seeing him nobly rally a Nassaut regiment, which he led to the charge in person, feebly but hereically exclaimed, 'That's rightthat's right-well done, my dear March !' and immediately ex-

pired." - - -

"Captain Hallowell was succeeded on the Roman coast by Captain Louis, who was after-wards joined by Sir Thomas Troubridge. The French, seeing that all hopes of defending themselves successfully against the united powers that attacked them on all sides, were at an end, and thinking to obtain better terms from the English than the Austrians, proposed terms to the latter officer, with that effrontery which characterizes their public proceedings, but which is as often successful as it is impudent. They had a man of the right stamp to deal with. Their ambassador at Rome began by saying, that the Roman territory was the property of the French, by right of con-The British Commodore quest. settled that point, by replying, 'It is mine by reconquest.' A capitulation was soon concluded for all the Roman States, and Captain Louis rowed up the Tiber in his barge, hoisted English colours on the Capitol, and acted, for the time, as Governor of Rome. The prophecy of Father M'Cormick, an Irish Franciscan, was thus accomplished. On Nelson's return to Naples from Aboukir, this man predicted, that the Admiral would take Rome with his ships. The hero reminded him that ships could not ascend the Tiber: but the friar, who had probably forgotten this circumstance, met the objection with a **bold** front: and declared he saw that it would come to pass notwithstanding. Nelson, who was struck with the oddity of the circomstance, and not a little pleased with it, obtained preferment for him from the King of Sicily, and recommended him to the Pope."

Captain Campbell was the bearer of the despatches relating to Hawke's victory over Conflans in 1759. Of him

Ľ

. -- " The humorous anecdote has been told, that upon this or some similar occasion, Lord Anson, as they were going in his Lordship's carriage to earry the news to the King, said, ' Captain Campbell, the King will knight you, if you think proper.'—' Troth, my Lord,' said the Captain, who retained his Scotch dialect as long as he lived, 'I ken nee use that will be to me.'—' But your lady may like it,' replied his Lordship. " Weel then,' rejoined the Captain, ' His Majesty may knight her if he pleases.' " - - -

The following singular anecdote is related of the conduct of a pilot belonging to the Immortalité, whilst employed in the blockade of Brest:

"This man, either a Frenchman, or speaking French extremely well, expressed a great desire to Captain Hotham, that he would permit him to go on shore and get information of the state and situation of the enemy's fleet. After frequent solicitations, Captain Hotham consented, and he

was put on shore in the night. with a promise that a boat should: be sent to bring him off, at a proper time. The boat was accordingly sent five successive nights to the place appointed, but no pilot was there. At the expiration of eight days, he came alongside in a French boat rowed by two men: and gave the following account of himself. That fearing lest he should be apprehended as a spy, he gave up the idea of attempting to get off as agreed upon, and came to the resolution of hiring a boat to go into Cameret Bay; upon getting pretty near to it, he told the men did not mean that bay, meant Berthaume Bay, which was about half way to ship; when he had approached near this bay, he said he wanted to go to Point St. Mathews (which was not more than two gun shots from the frigate); upon this the men flew in a passion, telling him they would take him: back to Brest. The pilot instantly took a brace of pistols from his pocket, and pointing one at each of them, exclaimed—'I am an Englishman; and if you do not put me on board my ship without delay, I will blow your brains out.': With which the Frenchmen judged it best to comply.—This resolute fellow had absolutely been on board some of the ships of war, and gave an exact account of their condition and force." - - -

(In 1804) "M. La Touche Treville, who had commanded at Boulogne, in 1801, commanded now at Toulon. 'He was sent for on purpose,' said Nelson, 'as he beat me at Boulogne, to beat me again; but he seems very loth to try.' One day while the main body of the British fleet was out

of sight of land, the reconnoitring squadron, under Rear-Admiral Campbell, stood in close to the port, and La Touche, with a vastly superior force, pushed out and chased it about twelve miles. The Frenchman, delighted at having found himself in so novel a situation, published a boastful account, affirming that he had given chase to the whole British fleet, and that Nelson had fled before him! In spite of contempt for the gasconader, his lordship was half angered by his impudence. Writing to the present Earl, he said, 'You will have seen La Touche's letter-how he chased me, and how I ran. I keep it: and if I take him, by God he shall eat it.' La Touche, however, soon after died, according to the French papers, in consequence of walking so often up to the signal post upon Cape Sepet, to watch the British fleet: and thus effectually prevented Nelson from administering to him his own lying letter in a sandwich."

"Captain Gayton became a Rear-Admiral Oct. 18, 1770: was made a Vice-Admiral Feb. 3. 1776; and immediately afterwards appointed to the chief Returncommand at Jamaica. ing from thence in the Antelope, he fell in with a large ship, which was at first mistaken for an enemy, and preparations were made to receive her accordingly, though of force infinitely superior to the The Vice-Admiral, Antelope. though so extremely infirm as to be almost unable to walk, come upon the quarter-deck, and after concisely exhorting his crew to behave like Englishmen, told them, that for his part, 'he could not stand by them, but he would

sit and see them fight as long as they pleased.' This gallant officer died at Fareham in 1787. - - -

"Captain Harvey commanded the Brunswick, of 74 guns, on the memorable 1st of June. 1794. He was wounded early in the action by a musquet-ball, which tore away part of his right hand; but this he carefully concealed, and bound the wound up with his Some time after handkerchief. this he received a violent contusion in the loins, which laid him almost lifeless on the deck: from this severe blow he however rallied his strength of mind, and continued at his post, directing and conducting the action, until a doubled - headed shot splitting, struck his right arm near the elbow, and shattered it to pieces. Growing faint through loss of blood, he was now compelled to retire: but when assistance was offered to conduct him below, he nobly refused it,—I will not have a single man leave his quarters on my account! my legs still remain to bear me down into the cockpit." In this wounded and shattered state he cast a languid vet affectionate look towards his brave crew-' Persevere, my brave lads, is your duty! continue the action with spirit, for the honour of our King and Country; and remember my last words-THE COLOURS OF THE BRUNSWICK SHALL NEVER BE STRUCK!' About sun-set it was found necessary to amputate his arm above the elbow; and on the day after the Brunswick's arrival at Spithead, he was conveyed on shore at Portsmouth. where, after bearing the most excruciating pain with christian resignation, he was released from this world, and lost to his country, on the 30th June.

\* The House of Commons, to perpetuate the memory of this heroic man, unanimously voted a monument to be erected in Westminster abbey: had he survived, his name would have been included in the flag promotion which took place on the 4th of the following month. It is a singular coincidence of events, that Captain Harvey, and Captain Hutt, of the Queen, were companions in a post-chaise from London, on joining their respective ships, previous to their last cruize: they both lost a limb in the action; died on the same day; and are both recorded on the same monument, raised by a grateful country to their memory.

"The following anecdote is related of James Daley, a scaman of the Victorious, whose left thigh was carried away by a shot, so high up that a portion of the hip was attached to it, and the right shattered to pieces. On his way to the cockpit, he observed that one of the guns close to the hatchway was run out, and about to be discharged; he immediately desired the seamen who were carrying him down, to stop, which they did, when he requested to be allowed to have one shot more at the enemy before he died; 'after doing which,' he added, ' he would die content.' His request was granted; when he very contenthimself to be edly permitted carried down, exclaiming on the ladder, 'Fight on, my boys! fight on for your King and Country until you die.' On his arrival in the cockpit, he said to the Surgeon, 'Sir, I know you will do all you can for me, but I also know there is nothing in your power.' In less than half an hour after, his gallant soul left this for another world."

" Captain Otway continued to Trent on command the Jamaica station till September 1800, when he sailed for England with the flag of Sir Hyde Parker. During the six years that he had served in the West Indies, he is supposed to have captured and destroyed about two hundred of the enemy's privateers and merchantment, mounting on the whole 1000 guns. Nothing can mark the character of this officer more strongly than the following anecdote, of the authenticity of which we are well assured:—A party of seamen belonging to the Trent were on shore at Portsmouth returning stores, when the Master-Attendant of the Dockyard asked them how they liked their Captain; one of them replied, 'he was a man who would never deceive his crew, for if any of them deserved a couple of dozen, and he promised it, they were sure to get it; but that he did not make them polish shot or stanchions, and that he made the officers do their duty as well as the men.' Another of them observed, that 'the Captain always slept with one eye open, and looked out for them all.' '

On Capt. Otway's ship, the Edgar, being paid off at Chatham in July 1802, it is remarked, that "the ensuing Christmas night was the first he had slept on shore since 1784, a period of eighteen years!"

Captain (now Admiral) Hallowell presented Lord Nelson, in May 1799, with a coffin made from the wreck of the French Admiral's ship, L'Orient, which

blew

blew up at the battle of Aboukir, accompanied by the following letter:

'My Lord,—I have taken the liberty of presenting you a Coffin made from the mainmast of l'Orient, that when you have finished your military career in this world, you may be buried in one of your trophies—but that that period may be far distant, is the earnest wish of your sincere friend,

BEN. HALLOWELL.'

"On the bottom of this singular present was pasted a certificate written on paper to the following effect: 'I do hereby certify, that every part of this coffin is made of the wood and iron of l'Orient, most of which was picked up by His Majesty's ship under my command, in the Bay of Aboukir. 'Swiftsure, May 23, 1799.'

'BEN. HALLOWELL.' "The astonishment that prevailed amongst the crew of the Vanguard, Lord Nelson's flag ship, when they were actually convinced it was a coffin which had been thus conveyed on board, will be long remembered by their officers: 'We shall have hot work of it indeed,' said one of the seamen; 'you see the Admiral intends to fight till he is killed, and there he is to be buried.' Lord Nelson highly appreciated the present, and for some time had it placed upright, with the lid on, against the bulk-head of his cabin, behind the chair on which he sat at dinner, and viewed it with the undaunted mind of a warrior. At length, by the tears and entreaties of an old servant, he was prevailed on to allow its being carried below. When his Lordship left the Vanguard, the cossin was removed into the Foudroyant, where it remained for many days on the gratings of the quarter-deck. Whilst his officers were one day looking at it, he came out of the cabin: 'You may look at it, Gentlemen,' said the hero, 'as long as you please; but depend on it none of you shall have it.'"

11. Narrative of a Journey to the Shores of the Polar Sea, in the years 1819, 20, 21, and 22. By John Franklin, Capt. R. N. F. R.S. and Commander of the Expedition.

The narrative comprises all the particulars of the "Journey to the Shores of the Polar Sea, in the years 1819, 20, 21, and 22." Captain Franklin sailed to Davis' Straits, landed on the coast of Labrador, made preparations at York Factory, and proceeded across the country to Fort Chipewyan (whence Mackenzic set out,) where, being joined by Dr. Richardson and Mr. Hood, they got ready for their journey to the northward.

On the 18th July 1820, they embarked in three cances; coasted the lake, entered the Stoney river, (one of the discharges of the Athabasca lake into the Slave river,) and dashing down the same noble streams which Mackenzie navigated, soon reached the establishments on the great Slave lake. Here, procuring Copper Indians for guides, and consulting with them, Captain F. determined to abandon his original intention of descending Mackenzie's river, and try a new route to the Copper-Mine river, not only to the eastward of Mackenzie, but of Hearne. But as it is

not in our power to trace their course, and the course of their many adventures, in these narrow limits, we shall only observe, that they visited the Copper-Mine River (334 miles N. of Fort Enterprize,) and Copper Mountain; attained the Polat Sea, lat. 67 deg. 47 min. 50 sec. N. long. 115 deg. 36 min. 49 sec. W. and sailed 550 miles along its shore to the eastward, and returned across the Barren grounds, in appalling distress, to Fort Enterprise. From the latter parts we select a few pages illustrative of the work.

On the sea voyage, along the Polar sea coast:—" August 1.--At two this morning the hunters returned with two small deer and a brown bear. Augustus and Junius arrived at the same time, having traced the river twelve miles further up, without discovering any vestige of inhabi-We had now an opportunity of gratifying our curiosity respecting the bear so much dreaded by the Indians, and of whose strength and ferocity we had heard such terrible accounts. It proved to be a lean male of a vellowish brown colour, and not longer than a common black bear. It made a feeble attempt to defend itself, and was easily despatched. The flesh was brought to the tent, but our fastidious voyagers supposing, from its leanness, the animal had been sickly, declined eating it; the officers, however, being less scrupulous, boiled the paws, and found them excellent.

miles in the morning of the 5th, we had the mortification to find the inlet terminated by a river; the size of which we could not

ascertain, as the entrance we blocked by shoals. Its mouth lies in lat. 66 deg. 80 min. N. long. 107 deg. 58 min. W. have named this stream Back, as a mark of my friendship for my associate. We were somewhat consoled for the loss of time in exploring this inlet, by the success of Junius in killing a muskox, the first we had seen on the coast; and afterwards by the acquisition of the flesh of a bear, that was shot as we were returning up the eastern side in the evening. The latter proved to be a female in very excellent condition: and our Canadian voyagers, whose appetite for fat meat is insatiable, were delighted.

"We encamped on the shores of a sandy bay, and set the nets ? and finding a quantity of dried willows on the beach, we were enabled to cook the bear's flesh. which was superior to any meat we had tasted on the coast. The water fell two feet at this places during the night. Our nets produced a great variety of fish; namely, a salmon-trout, some round fish, tittameg, bleak, star! fish, several herrings, and a flat fish resembling plaice, but covered on the back with horny excrescences.

-- " The portion of the ses over which we passed, is navigable for vessels of any size; the ice we met, particularly after quitting Detention Harbour, would not have arrested a strong The chain of islands affords shelter from all heavy seas, and there are good harbours at convenient distances. I ontertain, indeed, sanguine hopes that the skill and exertions of my friend Captain Parry will soon render

render this question no longer problematical. His task is doubtless an arduous one, and, if ultimately successful, may occupy two and perhaps three seasons: but confiding as I do, from personal knowledge, in his perseverance and talent for surmounting difficulties, the strength of his ships, and the abundance of provisions with which they are stored, I have very little apprehension of his safety. As I understand his object was to keep the coast of America close on board, he will find in the spring of the year, before the breaking up of the ice can permit him to pursue his voyage, berds of deer flocking in abundance to all parts of the coast, which may be procured without difficulty; and, even later in the season, additions to his stock of provision may be obtained on many parts of the coast, should circumstances give him leisure to send out hunting par-With the trawl or seine nets also, he may almost every where get abundance of fish even without retarding his progress. Under these circumstances I do not conceive that he runs any hazard of wanting provisions, should his voyage be prolonged even beyond the latest period of time which is calculated upon. Drift timber may be gathered at many places in considerable quantities, and there is a fair prospect of his opening a communication with the Esquimaux, who come down to the coast to kill seals in the spring, previous to the ice breaking up; and from whom, if he succeeds in conciliating their good-will, he may obtain provision, and much useful assistance.

" If he makes for Copper-Mine

River, as he probably will do, he will not find it in the longitude as laid down on the charts; but he will probably find what would be more interesting to him, a post, which we erected on the 26th August at the mouth of Hood's River, which is nearly, as will appear hereafter, in that longitude, with a flag upon it, and a letter at the foot of it, which may convey to him some useful information. It is possible, however, that he might keep outside of the range of islands which skirt this part of the coast."

On the return—

" September 10 .- About noon the weather cleared up a little, and, to our great joy, we saw a herd of musk-oxen grazing in a valley below us. The party instantly halted, and the best hunters were sent out; they approached the animals with the utmost caution, no less than two hours being consumed before they got within gun-shot. In the mean time we beheld their proceedings with extreme anxiety, and many secret prayers were, doubtless, offered up for their success. length they opened their fire, and we had the satisfaction of seeing one of the largest cows fall; another was wounded, but escaped. This success infused spirit into our starving party. To skin and cut up the animal was the work of a few minutes. The contents of its stomach were devoured upon the spot, and the raw intestines, which were next attacked. were pronounced by the most delicate amongst us to be excellent. A few willows, whose tops were seen peeping through the snow in the bottom of the valley. were quickly grubbed, the tents pitched.

pitched, and supper cooked, and devoured with avidity. This was the sixth day since we had had a good meal; the tripe de roche, even where we got enough, only serving to allay the pangs of hunger for a short time.

-- " 17th. We walked next day over a more level country, but it was strewed with large These galled our feet a good deal: we contrived, however. to wade through the snow at a tolerably quick pace until 5 P.M. having made twelve miles and a half. We had made to-day our proper course, south by east, which we could not venture upon doing before, for fear of falling again upon some branch of the Contwoy-to. Some deer were seen in the morning, but the hunters failed of killing any, and in the afternoon we fell into the track of a large herd, which had passed the day before, but did not overtake them. In consequence of this want of success we had no breakfast, and but a scanty supper; but we allayed the pangs of hunger by eating pieces of singed hide. A little tripe de roche was also obtained. These would have satisfied us in ordinary times, but we were now almost exhausted by slender fare and travel, and our appetites had become ravenous."

22d. The body of the men "had halted among some willows, where they had picked up some pieces of skin, and a few bones of deer that had been devoured by the wolves last spring. They had rendered the bones friable by burning, and caten them, as well as the skin: and several of them had added their old shoes to the repast. Peltier

and Vaillant were with them, having left the canoe, which, they said, was so completely broken by another fall, as to be rendered incapable of repair, and entirely useless. The anguish this intelligence occasioned may be conceived, but it is beyond my power to describe it. Impressed, however, with the necessity of taking it forward, even in the state these men represented it to be, we urgently desired them to fetch it; but they declined going, and the strength of the officers was inadequate to the task. To their infatuated obstinacy on this occasion, a great portion of the melancholy circumstances which attended our subsequent progress may, perhaps, be attributed. The men now seemed to have lost all hope of being preserved; and all the arguments we could use failed in stimulating them to the least After consuming the exertion. remains of the bones and horns of the deer, we resumed our march."

At last weakness forced the party to separate; Mr. Hood, Dr. Richardson, and Hepburn, remained; while Captain Franklin pushed on for Fort Enterprize to procure assistance, but Fort Enterprize had been left desolate. Two, Vaillant and Credit, dropped behind in the snow, and the state of the rest may be gathered from the following:—

"Scarcely were these arrangements finished, before Perrault and Fontano were seized with a fit of dizziness, and betrayed other symptoms of extreme debility. Some tea was quickly prepared for them, and after drinking it, and eating a few morsels of burned leather, they recovered, and

expressed

expressed their desire to go forward; but the other men, slarmed at what they had just witnessed, became doubtful of their own strength, and, giving way to absolute dejection, declared their own inability to move. I now earnestly pressed upon them the necessity of continuing our journey, as the only means of saving their own lives, as well as those of our friends at the tent." ---

Fontano next fell; he was an Italian, "and had served many years in De Meuron's regiment. He had spoken to me that very morning, and after his first attack of disziness, about his father; and had begged, that should he survive, I would take him with me to England, and put him in the way of reaching home.

"The party was now reduced to five persons, Adam, Peltier, Benoit, Samandré, and myself. ---

" At length we reached Fort Enterprize, and to our infinite disappointment and grief found it a perfectly desolate habitation.— There was no deposit of provision, no trace of the Indians, no letter from Mr. Wentzel to point out where the Indians might be found. It would be impossible for me to describe our sensations after entering this miserable abode, and discovering how we had been neglected: the whole party shed tears, not so much for our own fate, as for that of our friends in the rear, whose lives depended .-entirely on our sending immediate relief from this place.

"I found a note, however, from Mr. Back, stating that he had reached the house two days ago, and was going in search of the Indians, at a part where St. Germain deemed it probable they

might be found. If he was unsuccessful, he purposed walking to Fort Providence, and sending succour from thence. But he doubted whether either be or his party could perform the journey to that place in their present debilitated state. It was evident that any supply that could be sent from Fort Providence would be long in reaching us, and could not be sufficient to enable us to afford any assistance to our companions behind, and that the only relief for them must be procured from the Indians. I resolved, therefore, in going also in search of them; but my companions were absolutely incapable of proceeding, and I thought, by halting two or three days they might gather a little strength, whilst the delay would afford us the chance of learning whether Mr. Back had seen the Indians.

" We now looked round for the means of subsistence, and were gratified to find several deer skins, which had been thrown away during our former residence. The bones were gathered from the heap of ashes; these with the skins, and the addition of tripe de rache, we considered would support us tolerably well for a time. As to the house, the parchment being torn from the windows, the apartment we selected for our ahode was exposed to all the rigour of the season. We endeayoured to exclude the wind as much as possible, by placing loose boards against the apertures. The temperature was now between 15 and 20 deg. below zero. procured fuel by pulling up the flooring of the other rooms, and water for the purpose of cooking, by melting the anow. Whilst we

were

were seated round the fire, singeing the deer-skin for supper, we were rejoiced by the unexpected entrance of Augustus. He had followed quite a different course from ours, and the circumstance of his having found his way through a part of the country he had never been in before, must be considered a remarkable proof of sagacity. The unusual earliness of this winter became manifest to us from the state of things at this spot. Last year at the same season, and still later, there had been very little snow on the ground, and we were surrounded by vast herds of rein-deer. Now there were but few recent tracks of these animals, and the snow was upwards of two feet deep. Winter River was then open, now it was frozen two feet thick.

"When I arose the following morning, my body and limbs were so swollen that I was unable to walk more than a few yards.-Adam was in a still worse condition, being absolutely incapable of rising without assistance. My other companions fortunately experienced this inconvenience in a less degree, and went to collect bones, and some tripe de roche, which supplied us with two meals. The bones were quite acrid, and the soup extracted from them excoriated the mouth if taken alone, but it was somewhat milder when boiled with tripe de roche, and we even thought the mixture palatable, with the addition of salt, of which a cask had been fortunately left here in the spring. Augustus to-day set two fishing lines below the rapid. On his way thither he saw two deer, but had not strength to follow them."

The fate of the party behind

was still more deplorable; and with as much as we can select from Dr. Richardson's narrative we conclude:

11th September .- " On arriving at the pines, we were much alarmed to find that Michel was We feared that he had lost his way in coming to us in the morning, although it was not easy to conjecture how that could have happened, as our footsteps of yesterday were very distinct. Hepburn went back for the tent, and returned with it after dusk. completely worn out with the fatigue of the day, Michel too arrived at the same time, and relieved our anxiety on his account. He reported that he had been in chase of some deer which passed near his sleeping-place in the morning, and although he did not come up with them, yet that he found a wolf which had been killed by the stroke of a deer's horn. and had brought a part of it. We implicitly believed this story then. but afterwards became convinced from circumstances, the detail of which may be spared, that it must have been a portion of the body of Belanger or Perrault. A question of moment here presents itself; namely, whether he actually murdered these men, or either of them, or whether he found the bodies on the snow. Captain Franklin, who is the best able to judge of this matter, from knowing their situation when he parted from them, suggested the former idea, and that both Belanger and Perrault had been sacrificed .-When Perrault turned back, Captain Franklin watched him until he reached a small group of willows, which was immediately adjoining to the fire, and concealed it from view, and at this time the smoke of fresh fuel was distinctly visible. Captain Franklin conjectures, that Michel having already destroyed Belanger, completed his crime by Perrault's death, in order to screen himself from detection.

"On the 19th Michel refused to hunt, or even to assist in carrying a log of wood to the fire, which was too heavy for Hepburn's strength and mine. Mr. Hood endeavoured to point out to him the necessity and duty of exertion, and the cruelty of his quitting us without leaving something for our support; but the discourse, far from producing any beneficial effect, seemed only to excite his anger, and amongst other expressions he made use of the following remarkable one: 'It is no use hunting, there are no animals, you had better kill and eat me. At length, however, he went out, but returned very soon, with a report that he had seen three deer, which he was unable to follow from having wet his foot in a small stream of water thinly covered with ice, and being consequently obliged to come to The day was rather the fire. mild, and Hepburn and I gathered a large kettleful of tripe de roche; Michel slept in the tent this night.

"Sunday, October 20.—In the morning we again urged Michel to go a hunting, that he might, if possible, leave us some provision, to-morrow being the day appointed for his quitting us; but he shewed great unwillingness to go out, and lingered about the fire, ander the pretence of cleaning his gun. After we had read the morning service I went about noon to gather some tripe de roche, leav-

ing Mr. Hood sitting before the tent at the fire-side, arguing with Michel; Hepburn was employed cutting down a tree at a short distance from the tent, being desirous of accumulating a quantity of fire-wood before he left us. A short time after I went out. I heard the report of a gun, and about ten minutes afterwards Hepburn called to me in a voice of great alarm, to come directly. When I arrived, I found poor Hood lying lifeless at the fireside, a ball having apparently entered his forehead. I was at first horror-struck with the idea, that in a fit of despondency he had hurried himself into the presence of his Almighty Judge, by an act of his own hand; but the conduct of Michel soon gave rise to other thoughts, and excited suspicions which were confirmed, when upon examining the body I discovered that the shot had entered the back part of the head, and passed out at the forehead, and that the muzzle of the gun had been applied so close as to set fire to the night-cap behind. - - -

"Next day, having determined on going to the Fort, we began to patch and prepare our clothes for the journey. We singed the hair off a part of the buffalo robe that belonged to Mr. Hood, and

boiled and ate it. - -

"Thick snowy weather and a head wind prevented us from starting the following day, but on the morning of 23d we set out, carrying with us the remainder of the singed robe. Hepburn and Michel had each a gun, and I carried a small pistol, which Hepburn had loaded for me. In the course of the march Michel alarmed us much by his gestures

and

and conduct, was constantly muttering to himself, expressed an unwillingness to go to the Fort, and tried to persuade me to go to the southward to the woods, where he said he could maintain himself all the winter by killing In consequence of this behaviour, and the expression of his countenance, I requested him to leave us and to go to the southward by himself. This proposal increased his ill-nature, he threw out some obscure hints of freeing himself from all restraint on the morrow; and I overheard him muttering threats against Hepbarn, whom he openly accused of having: told stories against him. He also, for the first time, assumed such a tone of superiority in addressing me, as evinced that he considered us to be completely in his power, and he gave vent to several expressions of hatred towards the white people, or, as he termed us in the idiom of the voyagers, the French, some of whom, he said, had killed and caten his uncle and two of his relations. In short, taking every circumstance of his conduct into consideration, I came to the conclusion, that he would attempt to destroy us on the first opportunity that offered, and that he had hitherto abstained from doing so from his ignorance of the way to the Fort, but that he would never suffer us to go thither in company with him. In the course of the day he had several times re-. marked that we were pursuing the same course that Mr. Franklin was doing when he left him, and that by keeping towards the setting sun he could find his way himself. Hepburn and I were not in a condition to resist even 1823.

an open attack, nor could we by any device escape from him. Our united strength was far inferior to his, and, besides his gun, he was armed with two pistols, an Indian bayonet, and a knife. In the afternoon, coming to a rock on which there was some tripe de roche, he halted, and said he would gather it whilst we went on, and that he would soon overtake us. Hepburn and I were now left together for the first time since Mr. Hood's death, and he acquainted me with several material circumstances, which he had observed of Michel's behaviour. and which confirmed me in the opinion that there was no safety for us except in his death, and he offered to be the instrument of it. I determined, however, as I was thoroughly convinced of the necessity of such a dreadful act, to take the whole responsibility upon myself; and immediately upon Michel's coming up, I put an end to his life by shooting him through the head with a pistol. - - -

"29th. Upon entering the now desolate building, we had the satisfaction of embracing Captain Franklin, but no words can convey an idea of the filth and wretchedness that met our eyes on looking around. Our own misery had stolen upon us by degrees, and we were accustomed to the contemplation of each other's emaciated figures, but the ghastly countenances, dilated eye-balls, and sepulchral voices of Mr. Franklin and those with him, were more than we could at first

"November 1.—This day was fine and mild. Hepburn went hunting, but was, as usual, unsuccessful. As his strength was G rapidly

rapidly declining, we advised him to desist from the pursuit of deer; and only to go out for a short time, and endeavour to kill a few partridges for Peltier and Seman-The Doctor obtained a little drè. tripe de roche, but Peltier could not eat any of it, and Semandre only a few spoonfuls, owing to the soreness of their throats. the afternoon Peltier was so much exhausted, that he sat up with difficulty, and looked piteously; at length he slided from his stool upon his bed, as we supposed to sleep, and in this composed state he remained upwards of two hours, without our apprehending any danger. We were then alarmed by hearing a rattling in his throat, and on the Doctor's examining him, he was found to be speechless. He died in the course of the night. Semandrè sat up the greater part of the day, and even assisted in pounding some bones; but, on witnessing the melancholy state of Peltier, he became very low, and began to complain of cold and stiffness of the joints. Being unable to keep up a sufficient fire to warm him, we laid him down and covered him with several blankets. He did not. however, appear to get better, and I deeply lament to add he also died before daylight. We removed the bodies of the deceased into the opposite part of the house, but our united strength was inadequate to the task of interring them, or even carrying them down to the river.

a It may be worthy of remark that poor Peltier, from the time of Benoit's departure, had fixed on the first of November as the time when he should cease to expect any relief from the Indians, and had repeatedly said that if they did not arrive by that day, he should not survive.

" Peltier had endeared himself to each of us by his cheerfulness, his unceasing activity, and affectionate care and attentions, ever since our arrival at this place. He had nursed Adam with the tenderest solicitude the whole time. Poor Semandre was willing to have taken his share in the labours of the party, had be not been wholly incapacitated by his weakness and low spirits. The severe shock occasioned by the sudden dissolution of our two companions rendered us very melancholy.-Adam became low and despondent, a change which we lamented the more, as we had perceived he had been gaining strength and spirits for the two preceding days. I was particularly distressed by the thought that the labour of collecting wood must now devolve upon Dr. Richardson and Hepburn, and that my debility would disable me from affording them any material assistance; indeed both of them most kindly urged me not to make the attempt. They were occurred the whole of the next day in tearing down the logs of which the store-house was built, but the mud plastered between them was so hard frozen that the labour of separation exceeded their strength. and they were completely exhausted by bringing in wood sufficient for less than twelve hours' consumption.

"I found it necessary in their absence, to remain constantly near Adam, and to converse with him, in order to prevent his reflecting on our condition, and to keep up his spirits as far as possible. I also lay by his side at night.

"On the 3d the weather was very cold, though the atmosphere was cloudy. This morning Hepburn was affected with swelling in his limbs; his strength, as well as that of the Doctor, was rapidly declining; they continued, however, to be full of hope. Their utmost exertions could only supply wood, to renew the fire thrice, and on making it up the last time we went to bed. Adam was in rather better spirits, but he could not bear to be left alone. Our stock of bones was exhausted by a small quantity of soup we made this evening. The toil of separating the hair from the skins. which in fact were our chief support, had now become so wearisome as to prevent us from eating as much as we should otherwise have done."

It is hardly possible to read this unaffected and truly pathetic tale without being moved to tears. What is the poetical distress of tragedy to its melancholy details! In four days more we are told—

-- "The swellings in Adam's limbs having subsided, he was free from pain, and arose this morning in much better spirits, and spoke of cleaning his gun ready for shooting partridges, or any animals that might appear near the house; but his tone entirely changed before the day was half over; he became again dejected, and could scarcely be prevailed upon to eat. The Doctor and Hepburn were almost exhausted. The cutting of one log of wood occupied the latter half an hour; and the other took as much time to drag it into the house, though the distance did not exceed thirty yards. I endeavoured to help the Doctor, but my assistance was very trifling. Yet it was evident that, in a day or two, if their strength should continue to decline at the same rate, I should be the strongest of the

party.

" I may here remark that owing to our loss of flesh, the hardness of the floor, from which we were only protected by a blanket, produced soreness over the body, and especially those parts on which the weight rested in lying. yet to turn ourselves for relief was a matter of toil and difficulty. However, during this period, and indeed all along after the acute pains of hunger, which lasted but three or four days, had subsided, we generally enjoyed the comfort of a few hours' sleep. dreams which for the most part, but not always accompanied it, were usually (though not invariably,) of a pleasant character, being very often about the enjoy. ments of feasting. In the daytime we fell into the practice of conversing on common and light subjects, although we sometimes discussed with seriousness and earnestness topics connected with religion. We generally avoided speaking directly of our present sufferings, or even of the prospect of relief. I observed, that in proportion as our strength decayed, our minds exhibited symptoms of weakness, evinced by a kind of unreasonable pettishness with each other. Each of us thought the other weaker in intellect than himself, and more in need of advice and assistance. So trifling a circumstance as a change of place, recommended by one as being warmer and more comfortable, and refused by the other from a dread of motion. frequently called forth fretful expressions, which were no sooner uttered than atoned for, to be repeated perhaps in the course of a few minutes. The same thing often occurred when we endeavoured to assist each other in carrying wood to the fire; none of us were willing to receive assistance, although the task was disproportioned to our strength. On one of these occasions Hepburn was so convinced of this waywardness, that he exclaimed, Dear me, if we are spared to return to England, I wonder if we shall recover our understandings.' "

On the 7th, the Indians sent by Mr. Back happily arrived with relief, and so dreadfully season-

ably, that

- - " Poor Adam was in so low a state that he could scarcely comprehend the information.— When the Indians entered, he attempted to rise, but sank down But for this seasonable interposition of Providence, his existence must have terminated in a few hours, and that of the rest probably in not many days.

"The Indians had left Akaitcho's encampment on the 5th November, having been sent by Mr. Back with all possible expedition, after he had arrived at their tents. They brought but a small supply of provision, that they might travel quickly. consisted of dried deer's meat. some fat, and a few tongues. Dr. Richardson, Hepburn, and I. eagerly devoured the food, which

they imprudently presented to us in too great abundance; and in consequence we suffered dreadfully from indigestion, and had no rest the whole night. Adam, being unable to feed himself, was more judiciously treated by them, and suffered less; his spirits revived hourly. The circumstance of our eating more food than was proper in our present condition, was another striking proof of the debility of our minds. We were perfectly aware of the danger, and Dr. Richardson repeatedly cautioned us to be moderate; but he was himself unable to practise the caution he so judiciously recommended."

On the 16th, the party were enabled to quit Fort Enterprize, and descend Winter River. &c.; and on the 26th reached the abode of the Chief (their companion) Akaitcho.

Mr. Back's narrative, corresponding with that of Captain Franklin, and that of Dr. Richardson (he having left them, accompanied by St. Germain, Belanger, and Beauparlant, to seek relief for the party at Fort Enterprize,) is of nearly equal interest; and we shall transcribe a few of its striking passages.

October 6.

" My increasing debility had for some time obliged me to use a stick for the purpose of extending my arms; the pain in my shoulders being so acute that I could not bear them to remain in the usual position for two minutes together. We halted at five among some small brushwood, and made a sorry meal of an old pair of leather trowsers, and some swamp tea." - - -

7th. - - " In the evening, from there being no tripe de roche, we were compelled to satisfy, or rather allay, the cravings of hunger, by eating a gun cover and a pair of old shoes: at this time I had scarcely strength to get on my legs."

Their disappointment at arriving at Fort Enterprise is feelingly

painted.

- - " We passed the Slave Rock, and making frequent halts. arrived within a short distance of Fort Enterprize; but as we perceived neither any marks of Indians, nor even of animals, the men began absolutely to despair: on a nearer approach, however, the tracks of large herds of deer, which had only passed a few hours, tended a little to revive their spirits, and shortly after we crossed the ruinous threshold of the long-sought-for spot; but what was our surprise, what our sensations, at beholding every thing in the most desolate and neglected state: the doors and windows of that room in which we expected to find provisions, had been thrown down, and carelessly left so; and the wild animals of the woods had resorted there, as to a place of shelter and retreat. Mr. Wentzel had taken away the trunks and papers, but had left no note to guide us to the Indians. This was to us the most grievous disappointment; without the assistance of the Indians, bereft of every resource, we felt ourselves reduced to the most miserable state, which was rendered still worse, from the recollection that our friends in the rear were as miserable as ourselves. moment, however, hunger prevailed, and each began to gnaw the scraps of putrid and frozen meat that were lying about, without waiting to prepare them. A fire, however, was made, and the neck and bones of a deer, found lying in the house, were boiled and devoured.

"I determined to remain a day here to repose ourselves, and then to go in search of the Indians, and in the event of missing them, to proceed to the first trading establishment, which was distant about one hundred and thirty miles, and from thence to send succour to my companions." -- -

In executing this generous purpose, one time Belanger had been despatched a distance of four miles, but so reduced were the

miserable travellers,

" October 16 .-- We waited until two in the afternoon for Belanger; but not seeing any thing of him on the lake, we set out, purposing to encamp at the Narrows, the place which was said to be so good for fishing, and where, according to St. Germain's account, the Indians never failed to catch plenty; its distance at most could not be more than two We had not proceeded. far before Beauparlant began to complain of increasing weakness. This was so usual with us that no particular notice was taken of it, for in fact there was little difference, all being alike feeble: among other things, he said, whilst we were resting, that he should never get beyond the next encampment, for his strength had quite failed him. I endeavoured to encourage him by explaining the mercy of the Supreme Being, who ever beholds with an eve of pity those that seek his aid. passed as common discourse, when he inquired where we were to put up; St. Germain pointed

to a small clump of pines near us, the only place indeed that offered for fuel. 'Well,' replied the poor man, 'take your axe, Mr. Back; and I will follow at my leisure, I shall join you by the time the encampment is made.' This is a usual practice of the country, and St. Germain and myself went on fowards the spot; it was five o'clock and not very cold, but rather milder than we had experienced it for some time, when, on leaving the ice, we saw a number of crows perched on the top of some high pines near us. St. Germain immediately said there must be some dead animal thereabouts, and proceeded to search, when we saw several heads of deer half buried in the snow and ice, without eyes or tongues. previous severity of the weather only having obliged the wolves and other animals to abandon An expression of 'Oh merciful God! we are saved,' broke from us both; and with feelings more easily imagined than described, we shook hands, not knowing what to say for joy. It was twilight, and a fog was rapidly darkening the surface of the lake, when St. Germain commenced making the encampment; the task was too laborious for me to render him any assistance, and had we not thus providentially found provision, I feel convinced that the next twenty-four hours would have terminated my existence. But this good fortune, in some measure, renovated me for the moment, and putting out my whole strength, I contrived to collect a few heads, and with incredible difficulty carried them singly about thirty paces to the fire.

"Dartiness stèle on us apace, and I became extremely anxious about Beauparlant; several gumi were fired, to each of which he answered. We then called out, and again heard his responses, though faintly, when I told St. Germain to go and look for him, as I had not strength myself, being quite exhausted. He said, that he had already placed a pine branch on the ice; and he could then scarcely find his way back, but if he went now he should certainly be lost. In this situation I could only hope that as Beauparlant had my blanket, and every thing requisite to light a fire, be might have encamped at a little distance from us.

" October 17 .- The night was cold and clear, but we could not sleep at all, from the pains of having eaten. We suffered the excruciating torments. though I in particular did not est a quarter of what would have satisfied me; it might have been from using a quantity of raw or frozen sinews of the legs of deer, which neither of us could avoid doing, so great was our hunger. In the morning, being much agitated for the safety of Beauparlant, I desired St. Germain to go in search of him, and to return with him as quick as possible, when I would have something prepared for them to eat.

"It was, however, late when he arrived, with a small bundle which Beauparlant was accustomed to carry, and with tears in his eyes told me that he had found our poor companion dead. Dead! I could not believe him. 'It is so, Sir,' said St. Germain; 'after hallooing and calling his name to no purpose, I went towards our

last

last encampment, about threequarters of a mile, and found him stretched upon his back on a sand bank frozen to death, his limbs all extended and swelled enormously, and as hard as the ice that was near him; his bundle was behind him, as if it had rolled away when he fell, and the blanket which he wore around his neck and shoulders thrown on one side. Seeing that there was no longer life in him, I threw your covering over him, and placed his snowshoes on the top of it.'

1

ij

3

c

=

¢

Ċ,

Ċ

ţ

ŗ

4

"I had not even thought of so serious an occurrence in our little party, and for a short time was obliged to give vent to my grief." --

Belanger rejoined the two remaining wanderers:—"We had set fishing-lines, but without any success; and we often saw large herds of deer crossing the lake at full speed, and wolves pursuing them. - - -

"On the 27th we discovered the remains of a deer, on which we feested. The night was unusually cold, and ice formed in a pint-pot within two feet of a fire. The coruscations of the Aurora were beautifully brilliant; they served to shew us eight wolves, which we had some trouble to frighten away from our collection of deer's bones; and, with their howling, and the constant cracking of the ice, we did not get much rest. ....

"Having collected with great care, and by self-denial, two small packets of dried meat or sinews, sufficient (for men who knew what it was to fast), to last for eight days at the rate of one indifferent meal per day, we prepared to set out on the 30th. I calculated that we should be about fourteen days in reaching Fort Providence;

and, allowing that we neither killed deer nor found Indians, we could but be unprovided with food six days, and this we heeded not whilst the prospect of obtaining full relief was before us. Accorda ingly we set out against a keen north-east wind, in order to gain the known route to Fort Provi-We saw a number of wolves and some crows on the middle of the lake, and supposing such an assembly was not met idly, we made for them, and came in for a share of a deer, which they had killed a short time before, and thus added a couple of meals to our stock. By four P. M. we gained the head of the lake, or the direct road to Fort Providence, and some dry wood being at hand, we encamped." - - -

In a few days more they were relieved by the Indians.

12. Journal of a Voyage to the Northern Whale Fishery, including researches and discoveries on the Eastern Coast of West Greenland, made in the summer of 1822. By William Scoresby, Jun. F. R. S. E. M. W. S. &c. Commander.

This Voyage was undertaken originally for the prosecution of the Whale Fishery on the Coast of Greenland and Spitsbergen, but collaterally for the purpose of discovery. It was accomplished in the ship Baffin, of Liverpool, and fifty of 321 tons burden Captain Scoresby effected, during the voyage, surveys of 800 miles along the coast of Greenland,—measuring the curvature-and corrected errors in the chart of those latitudes, many of them them of serious and dangerous

magnitude.

Arriving at Spitsbergen, he observes: The western coast presents alternate streaks of black and white. The former colour, consisting of ridges of naked rock, which appear black, contrasted with the brilliant whiteness of the snow: the latter of snow and ice, which fills all the ravines. dells, fissures and valleys, and reflects the light of the sun with such intensity, that the tracts of snow-clad land exhibited, as near as possible, the colour and splendour of the moon at the full. The ice and rocks being thus highly illuminated and strongly contrasted, being constructed on a majestic scale, and rising with peculiar steepness out of the sea, give a character to the Spitsbergen scenery highly striking, interesting, and indeed magnificent.

The temperature in 79 deg. 31 min. was very severe. Water spilt upon a table within 3 yards of a hot air-stove, became ice. A damp hand applied to any metallic substance in the open air, stuck to it, and the tongue brought into contact with the same, adhered so firmly that it could not be removed without the

loss of the skin.

A season of detention by surrounding ice, gave Captain Scoresby an opportunity of making some important experiments upon the elicitation of magnetism by percussion. He found rods of soft steel the best by far. The first step of the process is to hammer a poker or rod at one end, while held in a vertical position, or such as the dipping needle assumes; a few blows will render it sensibly magnetic. Place a

soft steel bar on the top of the poker, and hammer it our the upper end, while both the poker and the bar are held vertically, or in the direction of the dipping needle: it then acquires strong magnetism, the upper end becoming a south pole, and the By this lower a north pole. means, amongst other cases, a knitting needle was made to lift twice its own weight. Experiments these of great importance to seamen, who are so dependant upon the compass. In this manner a magnetic needle might be made from a common nail, in a few minutes. When we reflect upon the risk of fire, shipwreck, and other casualties in which seamen put off in boats, at a moment's warning, without any such guidance, and further when we consider the cases in which a ship's compasses have been entirely spoiled by lightning, and in consequence the south pole has been mistaken for the north, and the ship has steered accordingly; we shall well know how to appreciate the value of Captain Scoresby's experi-In a short time comments. pound magnets were thus formed. which carried a weight of 18lb.; and Captain Scoresby thinks that such might be completed in about two hours from rods not having the slightest perceptive magnetism originally, to carry from 20 to 30lb.

In latitude 76 deg. 24 min, they found a large block of freshwater ice, weighing between two and three tons; it was remarkable for its purity and transparency. A small lens of this ice constructed with little care, readily ignited inflammable substances.

With regard to bear hunting,

one

one of the field sports of those deserts of solemn stillness and eternal desolation, observe the following:

When the bear is found in the water, crossing from one sheet of ice to another, it may generally be attacked with advantage: but, when on the shore, or more especially when it is upon a large sheet of ice covered with snow, on which the bear supporting itself upon the surface with its extended paws, can travel with twice the speed of a man, who perhaps sinks to the knees at every step. it can seldom be assailed with either safety or success. Most of the fatal accidents which have occurred with bears, have been the result of rencontres on the ice, or injudicious attacks made to such disadvantage.

A few years ago, when one of the Davis' Straits whalers was closely beset among the ice, on the south west, or on the coast of Labrador, a bear that had for some time been seen near the ship, at length became so bold as to approach alongside, tempted probably by the offal of the provision that had been thrown overboard by the cook. At this time the people were all at dinner, no one being required to keep the deck in the then immoveable state of the ship. A hardy fellow who first looked out, perceiving the bear so near, imprudently jumped upon the ice, armed only with a handspike, with a view, it is supposed, of securing all the honour of capturing so fierce a visitor to himself. But the bear, regardless of such weapons, and sharpened probably by hunger, immediately, it should seem, disarmed his antagonist, and seizing him by the

back with his powerful jaws, carried him off with such celerity, that on his dismayed comrades arising from their meal, and looking abroad, he was so far beyond their reach as to defytheir pursuit.

An equally imprudent attack was made upon a bear in 1820, by a seaman employed in one of the Hull Whalers. The ship was moored to a large field of ice, on which at a considerable distance a large bear was observed prowling about for prey. One of the ship's company, emboldened by Rum, undertook to attack and pursue him armed with a whalelance only, and in spite of all per-Half a league of yielding snow, and rugged hummocks, brought him within a few yards of the enemy, who, to his surprise, undauntedly faced him, and seemed to invite him to the combat. His courage began to fail, he stopped and presented his lance; the bear also stood still; he shouted, made feints of attack, and advanced his lance, but the bear would not move. He began to tremble, the bear advanced, all his courage evaporated, and he turned round and fled. This was the time of greatest danger; the sailor's flight encouraged the bear to pursue, and he rapidly gained upon the sailor. The whale-lance, his only defence, encumbering him, he threw it down. This fortunately excited the bear's attention; he stopped, pawed it, bit it, and then resumed the chase. Again he was at the heels of the panting seaman, who, conscious of the favourable stratagem of the lance, dropped a mitten: the bear again stopped to examine it. and the sailor made considerable progress a head. So with another mitten

mitten and a hat, which the bear tore to shreds between his teeth and paws. The sailor was rapidly, losing ground, and was upon the point of being caught, when his shipmates, observing the affair. had assumed a dangerous aspect, sallied out to his rescue; their line opened him a passage, and then closed to receive the bear. The sailor passed in safety, but fear so pursued him, that he did not cease running till he reached; the ship. The bear surveyed the line of his enemies, but, finding it too formidable, he wheeled about and made an honourable retreat.

Among the most remarkable phenomena of these high latitudes, are those optical deceptions caused by refraction. Upon one occasion a piece of ice seemed at the distance of two or three miles only, and as there was rock upon the top of it, Captain Scoresby sent the boats for a piece as a specimen. The boats to his great surprise, as well as of the men in them, rowed hard for two or three hours before they reached it, and, instead of being of the size judged by its apparent distance, it was higher than the mast head. At another time the land appeared suddenly to advance twenty miles nearer. Rvery object around was perpetually changing and assuming some fresh appearance. New: masts, additional sails, and in some cases inverted images, ... many times larger than the original, ap-The acpeared above the ship. cumulated ice, assumed the forms of domes, temples, minarets. towers, spires, obelisks, pyramids, and other magnificent architectural structures; others appeared like large masses of rock suspended in the air, but in every

case perpetually changing to some other figure, sometimes, for instance, an obelisk, a castle, a cathedral, and then a bridge of **géngle** stupendous stretching from mountain mountain, over intermediate valleys, miles in width. But the most remarkable instance of refraction was the appearance of an inverted ship, in the midst of a clear blue sky. So perfect was the image, that when examined by a telescope, Captain Scoresby could distinguish every sail, and from the general "rig of the ship," he knew it to be his father's ship, the Fame, then thirty miles off and entirely out of sight, being seventeen miles beyond the horizon and some leagues beyond the limit of direct vision.

Among the objects of grandeur in the northern seas, the icebergs stand the most prominent. Of them Captain Scoresby counted at one time, in an area of sea twenty miles diameter, above 500; some 200 feet above the surface of the sea, one a mile in circumference. One he calculated to contain 1,575,000,000 cubic feet, and to weigh 45,000,000 of tone. Their general colour and appear. ance, is that of islands of shalk : in recent fractures, however, the colour is a fine emerald green, and, where the light appears through a thin portion of the ice, a brilliant blue. It is remarkable that many of them contained strate of earth, stones, and rock, which prove how long they must have existed in that atate; indeed it is presumed they must necessarily have been formed by falling water either in showers or snows. specimens of rock upon these icebergs, consisted principally of gneiss,

gneias, basaltic greenstone, adme of it strongly magnetic, granular felspar, transition clay slate, hornblende, mica slate, a kind

of granite, &c.

Among the peculiarities of this climate, may be reckoned the wonderful difference of temperature between the land and the sea, a difference of from 30 to 40 degrees, the heat on the shore being 70, while on board the thermometer never rose above 40. The land is, indeed, generally, more free from clouds than the sea.-The sun sweeps for days together round the heavens without an intervening cloud or night. In such cases the heat is intense.-Mr. Lloyd, captain of the Trafalgar, who accompanied Captain Scoresby, found it as great as in the East or West Indies, and the power of the sun gave some of the men a violent ophthalmic affection. This constant action of the sun, without the suspension of night, produces an influence on vegetation, which exceeds perhaps any thing occurring even in the finest regions of the globe.---The whole process of vegetation, from the seed in the ground to the flowering and seeding of another species, is all accomplished in a few weeks.

The line of country which Captain Scoresby either discovered or partially re-discovered, lies between 176 and 181 north latitude, and 18 to 23 west longitude; a map of this is well laid down in his work. The character of the coast he describes as generally mountainous and barren, the average height of the mountains being about 3000 feet above the level of the sea. Those which he called

the western mountains, he estimated at 6000 feet.

The zoology of these lands Captain Scoresby describes as follows: Quadrupeds, rein-deer, white hares, and a new species of mouse, which he called Mus Groenlandica: birds, ducks, geese, partridges, plover, Greenland parrot, little hawk, petrel. tyste, loom, sea swallow, and the usual aquatic arctic birds: insects. butterflies, bees, moths, gnats, &c. The plants collected amounted to 46 species; of these the most interesting were, the Armica angustifolia, Stellaria nitida (new spec.) Pedicularis hirauta, Lusula arcuata, and the Salix, of which the species is doubtful. No shells were seen, except two or three washed specimens of bivalves of no peculiar beauty. The sea in some cases was coloured for several leagues by large patches of a yellowish green colour; upon examination it was found to contain immense numbers of animalculæ, so small, that a drop of water, examined by a microscope of a power of 28.224, was found to contain 26.450 of these insects; and this was taken from a part by no means the most discoloured. Hence, reckoming 60 drops to a dram, there would be a number in a gallon of water, exceeding by one half the population of the whole globe. .....

Along the whole line of country discovered or re-discovered by Captain Scoresby, were found traces of inhabitants, but no inhabitants were actually seen. Some relics were of that peculiar nature, which seemed to prove the place had been visited but a few days only prior to the arrival of the dis-

coverers

coverers: ashes of wood and moss. which would have been removed by the snow of a winter, and in one case the carcase of a sea horse. with a harpoon, struck apparently but very little before. Huts and instruments of various kinds were very numerous, and perpetually occurring. These relics acquire additional interest from the circumstance of a colony of Norwegians having been planted in some of these parts about the year 878, which afterwards received considerable additions, into which it is said Christianity was introduced about the year 1000, and in the year 1121, Sigurd, King of Norway, installed Arnold a bishop over them. Crantz relates, that these colonies contained the bishop's see, two convents, sixteen parishes with churches, and 300 hamlets. Seventeen bishops had been sent out from Norway, who filled the see until 1408; the last was prevented from landing upon account of the ice, and it appears that all trade with the mother country was dropped at the same The probability is, theretime. fore, that the colonists were impressed by a barrier of ice, which had so long prevented ships from reaching them, that they have been altogether lost to the world and forgotten. It has also been imagined that all supplies being cut off, the colonies became extinct.

This last conclusion, however, Captain Scoresby greatly doubts, as the Esquimaux live well upon their own resources on the same coast. Other causes given for their annihilation are only imaginary; such, for instance, as a plague, called the "black death,"

and the attacks of the aborigines of the country.

Some traces, however, of inhabitants have often since been discovered. In 1530 Bishop Arnold of Skalholt in Iceland, was driven by a storm so near the coast that he could see the people driving their cattle; but he did not land, because a favourable wind just then arose which brought the ship to Iceland: and John Groenlandra, a Hamburgh sailor, was driven three times upon the coast of Greenland, where he saw fishers' huts similar to what they have in Iceland; and in 1625, an entire boat, fastened with sinews and wooden pegs, was driven on shore in Iceland. Crantz mentions in 1752, a story of some Greenlanders who had made an excursion which took them three years, to a nation who had black hair and large beards, who were numerous, and their cattle plentiful; and have mentioned seeing numbers of these East countrymen. Crantz thinks these were the relics of the old Norwegian colonists. Darts were also found, unlike those used by the Esquimaux. and a fox trap: all which Captain Scoresby thinks prove it to be more than probable that some remains of this people yet exist.

Many attempts have been made to discover these lost colonies; but every attempt, through the irresolution of the person to whom it has been confided, or the barrier of ice which has attetched along this coast, has been unsuccessful. It remains, however, a question and an enterprise of peculiar interest.

There are few occupations of more continued danger than the whale

whale fishery: numerous are the accidents which Captain Scoresby's volume records. In one instance, part of a crew having been cast upon the ice, they could not be got off for fifty hours, and the limbs of many were mortified by the intensity of the cold. The surgeon amputated thirty-five in one day. In Captain Scoresby's vessel two men were lost, one washed overboard, and the other having struck a whale, the rope became entangled with his arm, and he was carried down by the monster into the deep in less than a second of time, at the rate of nine miles an hour, to an immense depth: he had not time for the least exclamation, and the person whose eye was fixed upon him could scarcely distinguish the object as it disappeared.

Dangers and privations like these demand some reward, and if it be found at all, it is when the Greenland seaman steers his ship after a successful voyage to his home, and forgets in the society of those whom he loves most dearly, the hardships he has un-

dergone.

Such a prospect doubtless often animated the mind of Captain Scoresby in his exertions, and he probably counted the day which would restore him again to the bosom of his family, and when his spirits would be brightened by their welcome.

While in the Mersey, he enquired of several who came on board, of the health of his family, but, either really or feignedly, they were ignorant of their welfare: by constant enquiry, and

without success, his feelings became absorbed in an anxiety, of which, he says, the remembrance throws my whole frame into a tremor! At length a boat approached, he took the glass and saw the face of a friend; hope beamed in his mind: but still there was some peculiarity in the conduct of the passenger; the sail was taken down and the men lay upon their oars; the boat approached under the influence of the tide only; no encouraging action or word as formerly, the harbinger of good news; he thought they had not seen him. and showed himself at the gangway; but then their averted countenances were indeed indicative of sorrow; he says I could no longer sustain the agony of feeling which uncertainty rendered intolerable, I called out, " Is all A languid and evasive well?" look sunk me in depair; I could no longer support myself on the deck; I rushed into my cabin.— In a few minutes my friend was in my presence. I saw him struggling with himself, and about to endeavour by a well-meant circumlocution, to break the dreadful tidings he had to communicate. "Let me know," cried I, "the worst, tell it me at once." He grasped my hand with the fervour of friendship, while the tear of sympathy gushed from his eyes. "I am sorry-," my agony obliged him to speak out,-" Mrs. Scoresby is no more."

Who can foresee the pitfalls which await us in this life? the rocks of disappointment upon which our hopes so often split?

13. Memoirs of a Captivity among the Indians of North America, from childhood to the age of nineteen. By John D. Hunter.

The author of this work gives several respectable references for the truth of his general statement; but for this, the phraseology and sentiments in many places have an air more finished than could be expected from a person who had spent his whole life without education among savages, and had not seen a white person till within the last two or three years. This, however, is most probably the injudicious correction, and perhaps addition of his literary assistant. The references which he gives are, Colonel Aspinwall, consulgeneral of the United States to Great Britain, Mr. Troppan, 69, Fleet-street, Robert Walsh, Esq. editor of the National Gazette, and Colonel Duarre, editor of the Aurora, Philadelphia, Dr. Waterhouse, Boston, Dr. Mitchell, Dri Hosack, and Mr. Sullivan of New York, Professors Patterson and Patter of Baltimore.

With regard to his captivity he

states,

"I was taken prisoner at a very early period of my life by a party of Indians, who, from the train of events that followed, belonged to, or were in alliance with the Kickapoo nation. At the same time two other white children, a boy and a small girl, were also made prisoners.

"I have too imperfect a recollection of the circumstances connected with this capture, to attempt any account of them; although I have reflected on the subject so often, and with so great interest and intensity, under the knowledge I have since acquired of the Indian modes of warfare, as nearly to establish at times a conviction in my mind of a perfect remembrance. There are moments when I see the rush of the Indians, hear their war-whoops and terrific yells, and witness the massacre of my parents and connexions, the pillage of their property, and the incendious destruction of their dwellings. But the first incident that made an actual and prominent impression on me, happened while the party were somewhere encamped, no doubt shortly after my capture; it was as follows: The little girl, whom I before mentioned, beginning to ery, was immediately despatched with the blow of a tomahawk by one of the warriots; the circumstance terrified me very much, more particularly as it was followed by very menacing motions of the same instrument, directed to me, and then pointed to the slaughtered infant, by the same warrior, which I then interpreted to signify, that, if I cried, he would serve me in the same manner."

The Indians generally separate their white prisoners; and a party leaving the main body, took the boy with them, and Mr. Hunter

never saw him again.

Settlers upon the Western from tiers are most liable to the attacks of the Indians, who, however they may for a sime appear peaceably disposed towards them, regard them only as intrudent upon their hunting ground, and generally sooner or later execute some act of exterminating vengeance upon them.

Mr. Hunter passed from the Kickapoos to the Kansar, and was adopted by a female of the

tribe.

tribe, for whom he appears to have entertained strong filial affection, and felt much gratitude. step-mother died, and he was led by circumstances into the tribe of the Osages, where he was afresh adopted into a new family, and great attention shown him.-Speaking of his new step-mother, he says, " this good woman, whose family now consisted of herself, her husband, a daughter almost grown, and myself, took every opportunity, and used every means which kindness and benevolence could suggest, to engage my affections and esteem. She used to weep over me, tell me how good her son had been, how much she loved him, and how much she 'You must mourned his loss. be good,' she would say, 'and you shall be my son, and I will be your mother.' The daughter in many respects imitated the mother; and the greatest care was taken to supply my wants with the choicest things they could bestow. They made and ornamented mockasins and leggings for me, and furnished me with a beaver cap and buffalo robe; habiliments not usually worn by the Indian boys. In fine, so constant and persevering were their attentions, and so kind and affectionate their care of me, that not to have loved and esteemed them, would have argued a degree of ingratitude and apathy of feeling, to which, if I know myself, I then was and shall ever remain a stranger."

Soon after he became possessed of a rifle, and as he used it in the chace with great success, the Indians gave him the name of the Hunter, which he ever after retained.

Whether or no the tale be a

North American Indian scenery, animale conomy, and manners, are probably correct; and with this view we extract them. The following is a vivid portrait of uncultivated Nature:

"These prairies are generally undulating and rich in their hollows; but, receding from these, they gradually become sterile, and terminate either in sandy or clay ridges. The margins of this river, and of the streams generally flowing into it, for an extent of from one to three miles in breadth, are covered with thick and large growths of cotton, wood, ash, sycamore, elm, various kinds of walnut, and many other trees and shrubs common to the Western States.

" But so variable are the features of this section of country. and so totally disconnected with its future reclaimance and improvement were my views, when I visited it, that any attempt on my part to a particular description, would be the extreme of folly, and not merit any consideration. In fact, many years, if not centuries, must elapse, before a correct account of this extensive district can be attained. Travellers may pass over and write volumes upon it; but Indian titles have to be extinguished, forests planted, and roads formed, before any satisfactory and circumstantial information, as connected with the purposes of civilized life. can be arrived at: suffice it to say, that no person unacquainted with this vast extent of country, and the fertility of a large portion of its soil, can form any idea of the luxuriance of its vegetable productions, or of the immense

immense herds of buffalo, deer, elk, &c. that riot, if I may use the expression, on the varied suffusion of perpetual plenty. Besides the wild rice, which grows on the wet lands, and various kinds of grass and herbage, either strawberries, gooseberries, blackberries, raspberries, or grapes, all in their proper seasons, and of a size and richness of flavour surpassing any thing I have seen in a state of cultivation, carpet the whole surface of the fertile prairies."

"Rattle-snakes, both black and parti-coloured, were larger and more numerous than I had ever before seen; and they would infest the country to a much greater extent, were it not for the hostility that exists between them

and the deer.

"This animal on discovering a snake, as I have repeatedly witnessed, retreats some distance from it, then running with great rapidity alights with its collected feet upon it, and repeats this maneeuvre till it has destroyed its

enemy."

"In one of my excursions, while seated in the shade of a large tree, situated on a gentle declivity, with a view to procure some mitigation from the oppressive heat of the mid-day sun, I was surprised by a tremendous rushing noise. I sprang up and discovered a herd, I believe, of a thousand buffaloes running at full speed directly towards me, with a view, as I supposed, to beat off the flies, which at this season are inconceivably troublesome to those animals.

"I placed myself behind the tree so as not to be seen, not apprehending any danger; because they ran with too great rapidity, and too closely together, to afford any one of them an opportunity of injuring me, while protected in this manner.

"The buffaloes passed so near me on both sides that I could have touched several of them, merely by extending the arm. In the rear of the herd was one on which a huge panther had fixed, and was voraciously engaged in cutting off the muscles I did not discover of its neck. this circumstance till it had nearly passed beyond rifle-shot distance, when I discharged my piece and wounded the panther. instantly left its hold on the buffalo, and bounded with great rapidity towards me. On witnessing the result of my shot, the apprehension I suffered can scarcely be imagined. I had, however, sufficient presence of mind to retreat and secrete myself behind the trunk of the tree, opposite to its approaching direction. Here, solicitous for what might possibly be the result of my unfortunate shot, I prepared both my knife and tomahawk, for what I supposed a deadly conflict with this terrible animal. In a few moments, however, I had the satisfaction to hear it in the branches of the tree over my head. My rifle had just been discharged, and I entertained fears that I could not reload it without discovering, and yet exposing myself to the fury of its destructive I looked into the tree with the utmost caution, yet could not perceive it, though its groans and vengeance-breathing growls told me it was not far off; and also what I had to expect in case it should discover me. - In this situation, with my eyes almost constantly directed upwards to observe

observe its motions, I silently loaded my rifle, and then creeping softly round the trunk of the tree, saw my formidable enemy resting on a considerable branch. about thirty feet from the ground, with his side fairly exposed. was unobserved, took deliberate aim, and shot it through the heart. It made a single bound from the tree to the earth, and died in a moment afterwards. I reloaded my rifle before I ventured to approach it, and even then not without some apprehension. took its skin, and was, with the assistance of fire and smoke, enabled to preserve and dress it. I name this circumstance, because it afterwards afforded me a source for some amusement: for I used frequently to array myself in it, as near as possible to the costume and form of the original, and surprize the herds of buffalos, elk, and deer, which, on my approach. uniformly fled with great precipitation and dread." - --

" In the fall of the year, when the prairie grass is dry, the prairies are sometimes set on fire by accident, and at others by design. Should the wind be high on these occasions, no spectacle can surpass them in grandeur and sublimity. A space as far as the eye can reach, is seen devastated by the igneous torrent. In some places the tortuous flames, comparatively lost in distance, appear to smoulder beneath impervious columns of smoke; at others they burst into the skies with the vividness and rapidity of lightning, and seem to threaten universal desolation. Their speed is that of the winds, and destruction betides every living thing that cannot outfly its course. The 1823.

grazing herds, conscious of the threatened calamity, fearlessly congregate with their natural enemies; and the buffalos, elks, deer, panthers, wolves, and bears, are seen promiscuously crowded together. They sometimes escape to the ravines and avoid death. but more frequently they are overwhelmed by the resistless flames. One of these fires raged to a very great extent a few years since, on the prairies, between the Kausar and Arkausar rivers; and it is extremely painful, on passing over them, to witness the ruin it produced. The mass of bleached bones strewed on the earth is astonishingly great; and no doubt remains that many thousand buffalos, and other animals, perished at this particular period." - - -

"A Frenchman, who was in the habit of trading among the Indians, took, among other articles, a quantity of gunpowder; but the Indians were supplied by the disposal of most of their furs to other traders, and reserved their remaining stock for the purpose of purchasing other necessaries with them. The Frenchman, however, having sold nearly all his goods, except this powder, and fearing lest it should remain on his hands, had tried every artifice to induce them to barter with him for it, but without succeeding, until Indian curiosity afforded him the opportunity of selling it. Among other ingenious questions they asked him how the white people made powder? The hope of finding a ready market for the 'black dust' at an advantageous price, immediately set to work his powers of He told them "the invention. white people sowed it in fields like they did wheat or tobacco . **H** seeds.

seeds, and were enabled thereby to raise large crops from a few pounds of seed." The Indians were highly pleased, and every one who could raise a beaver skin. purchased at an enormous price as far as his peltry would go, and in a little time the Frenchman found himself freed of all his powder, and in possession of great booty, and made the best of his way as soon as he could. delighted Indians directly set to work in preparing a choice spot of ground for the reception of their Having cleared the new crop. land by the removal of timber. rubbish, and brushwood; and having loosened the soil, they followed the Frenchman's directions in sowing the powder. They enclosed it, to prevent their horned and wild animals from injuring it. They went from time to time to After see if it had come up. some weeks had elapsed, and finding all their hopes at an end, an old chief, wiser than the rest, observed. "he was a Frenchman," of whom they had purchased the powder. This hint was enough; they understood him; they now all believed it was a fraud: they determined to revenge it the first opportunity. It should be kept in mind, that when any individual injures an Indian, he entertains the most bitter enmity, not only against him and his relations, but against his nation. Not long after, another Frenchman went among the same tribe with a cargo of dry goods. Frenchman obtained permission from the chief to sell his goods among his people: he gave up his own wigwams; the industrious pedlar opened his bales, and when the goods were all spread out for inspection as it were, the young warriors and all who had been fooled by the former Frenchman, rushed on him, and took all the poor man's goods. He laid his bitter complaint before the chief, and demanded satisfaction. The chief very gravely replied. "He certainly should be paid, but that he must wait until the next gunpowder harvest."

14. Travels through Sweden, Norway, and Finmark, to the North Cape, in the Summer of 1820. By A. de Capell Brooke, A.M.

"Nothing can be more surprising and beautiful than the singular clearness of the water of the northern seas. As we passed slowly over the surface, the bottom, which here was in general a white sand, was clearly visible, with its minutest objects, where the depth was from twenty to twenty-five fathom. During the whole course of the tour I made, nothing appeared to me so extraordinary as the inmost recesses of the deep thus unveiled to the eye. surface of the ocean was unruffled by the slightest breeze, and the gentle splashing of the oars scarcely disturbed it. Hanging over the gunwale of the boat with wonder and delight I gazed on the slowly moving scene below. Where the bottom was sandy, the different kinds of asteriæ, echini, and even the smallest shells, appeared at that great depth conspicuous to the eye; and the water seemed in some measure to have the effect of a magnifier, by enlarging the objects like a telescope, and bringing them seemingly nearer. creeping along, we saw, far beneath, the rugged sides of a mountain

recentain rising towards our boat, the base of which, perhaps, was hidden some miles in the great deep below. Though moving on a level surface, it seemed almost as if we were ascending the height under us; and when we passed over its sammit, which rose in appearance to within a few feet of our boat, and came again to the descent, which on this side was suddenly perpendicular, and overlooking a watery gulf, as we pushed gently over the last point of it, it seemed almost as if we had thrown ourselves down this precipice; the illusion, from the crystal clearness of the deep, actually producing a sudden start. Now we came again to a plain; and passed slowly over the submarine forests and meadows, which appeared in the expanse below; inhabited, doubtless, by thousands of animals, to which they afford both food and shelter, animals unknown to man: and I could sometimes observe large fishes of singular shape, gliding softly through the watery thickets, unconscious of what was moving above them. As we proceeded, the bottom became no longer visible; its fairy scenes gradually faded to the view, and were lost in the dark green depths of the ocean."

In these profound depths is found the remarkable gorgonia lepadifera of Linnæus, "considered rare by the inhabitants of these parts, who, when they accidentally meet with it, hang it up as a curiosity. This extraordinary zoophyte grows in the form of a tree, or branch; and its similarity is such, that few indeed, after even a minute investigation, would suppose it possessed life, or imagine it was any thing but what it has

hitherto been considered, a vegetable. This idea, which long prevailed with respect to the class of zoophytes in general, has been gradually exploded, as the attention of naturalists has been directed to marine productions. - - -

"On a first inspection of this gorgon, we behold nothing but a mere branch, singular indeed in appearance, and covered over with whitish scales, which seem like seeds hanging on every part of it: how extraordinary then does it appear, when we are told, that it is an animal, with not only bone and flesh, but even possessed of minute muscles and tendons! The stem of the branch, which is the inward support or bone of the animal, appears to be formed of different distinct layers or circles of a hard calcareous matter; and in the living state is surrounded by a fleshy substance. This is thickly covered with small whitish tubercles, which appear like barnacles hanging on it, and are the cells. that contain the numberless animals of which the gorgonia consists, protecting their delicate These they parts from injury. have the power of contracting and opening; and from them the tentacula of the polypus extend themselves, to procure nourishment; which is afterwards conducted to the main stem or body.

"In support of the opinion, that the gorgonia is really an animal, it may be observed, that, if a portion of the bone be burnt, it emits a smell, such as would arise from that of a fish, and unlike the smell of any vegetable substance. Still, however, much remains to be known; and we are yet ignorant of the manner in which it is first produced, or to

what operation it owes its subsequent increase, which appears to resemble the growth of a vegetable. As to these points, and many other curious particulars relating to zoophytes, we shall probably remain long in the dark; and the more we attempt to draw a distinct line between the two kingdoms, the more we find ourselves perplexed by difficulties, which rise to overthrow the favourite theory each naturalist is eager to form.

" The manner in which the gorgon is accidentally removed from the great depths of the ocean is singular. The uer, or red fish (perca marina), is seldom met with but in the fiords, and where the depth is from 150 to 300 fathoms. The fishermen generally remark, that this fish is found in the greater plenty in these parts, and more particularly where the sea trees most abound; delighting, as they informed me, in sporting about the branches of the gorgon, or animal tree; but possibly they feed on the heads of the polypi, when they stretch out their tentacula for nourishment. It sometimes happens that the lines, when set at these depths, are let down between the arms of the gorgon itself, and the red fish, when it takes the bait, on finding itself hooked, runs away with the line, and entangles itself among the branches of the animal. this is the case, the fishermen endeavour to release the line by pulling it; and if the gorgon be of a very large size, the branch round which it is fast resists all their endeavours, and the line is lost.

If, however, it happen to have caught hold only of the upper and slighter parts, these give way, and are drawn to the surface along They are bung up with the line. by the fishermen in their huts, who suppose them to be a kind of charm or protection against storms. - - - They arrive at a very extraordinary size, if we may believe the accounts of the fishermen, who have most frequent opportunities of seeing them, attaining dimentions even equal to those of our largest forest trees. This they conclude to be the case from their nets being sometimes entangled on the trunk or stem of the gorgon, when the united strength of several men is unable to free the nets. At other times a large portion of the animal has been pulled up with the net by main force, which they have represented as being of very considerable size; and from their description without doubt a gorgon. They have even assured me, that they grow to the height of fifty and sixty feet."

Specimens of this animal, or animal congregate, have been brought home by Captain B. who, with the liberality and politeness of a man of real science and a gentleman, invites the curious to visit his collection, and satisfy their minds as to its characteristic features. This perhaps some will be the more apt to do when they learn that Captain B. offers very strong proofs of the existence of the marvellous Sea-serpent, and is only sceptical on the subject of the monstrous Kraken.

15. Memoir of Central India, including Malwa and the adjoining Provinces, &c. By Major-General Sir John Malcolm, G.C.B. K.L.S.

"In January 1818 the author was placed by the Marquis of Hastings in the military and political charge of Central India; and during the four years he filled that station, his own attention, and that of the able public officers under his authority, was directed to the object of collecting materials for the illustration of its past and present condition." - - -

The work commences with a general view of the region which "comprises territory from twenty-one to twenty-five degrees North lat., and from seventy-three to eighty East long.; or from Chittore in Mewar North to the Taptee river South, and from Bundel-cund East to Guzerat West."

Among its principal cities is one whose name affords a curious illustration of native superstitions:

"Nolye was built by Raja Nol, or Nowul. Its modern appellation of Burnuggur has its origin in a strange vulgar superstition of names of bad omen, which must not be pronounced before the morning meal. The city is called either Nolye or Burnuggur, according to the hour in which its mention becomes necessary."

The early history of Malwa brings before us some striking characteristics of the Rajpoot princes.

--- "Many of the tribes in that province boast their descent from the celestial Ramchunder, and are consequently termed the children of the Sun; while others trace to Pooravisee, and deem

themselves descendants of the Moon. Some writers, however; deny their title even to the rank of Khetri, that race being, according to them, extinct in this yug or age; but the power the Rajpoots have long enjoyed, has obtained them the highest estimation. They were, to use a metaphorical and flattering phrase of their countrymen, the sword of the Hindu faith. It was not easy to subdue such men ; for though broken by their own dissensions, before and after the Mahomedan invasion. into a thousand petty states, almost every one of which was an object of contest between brothers, yet still every individual was a soldier, who preferred death to disgrace; and though ready to be the servant, scorned to be the slave of any monarch upon earth. They were taught their duties from their most sacred works. In one, the demigod Krishna, speaking to Arjoon, observes, 'A soldier of the Khetri tribe hath no superior duty to fighting. Soldier, who art the favourite of God, engage in such a battle as this; if thou art slain, thou wilt obtain heaven; if victorious, thou wilt enjoy a world!"

The Mahomedans did prove victorious, however; but the Moghul empire in turn fell before the predatory power of the Mahrattas.

"Almost all English readers are familiar with the name of Sevajee, the founder of the Mahratta empire, who, in A. D. 1646, was encouraged by the weakness of the Mahomedan sect to rebel. In 1674 he declared himself independent; and when he died, in 1682, he had established his authority over the greatest part of the Concan, a country which lies

between

between the great range of ails which bounds the Deckan on the West and the sea-coast, and is now under the Bombay government."

In our day, Sindia and Holkar have made the greatest efforts to extend and consolidate this Hindu power; the Paishwa being reduced to a puppet. Of these characters and their families, Sir J. M. gives us ample particulars. Holkar latterly became insane, and a new actor. Ameer Khan. played a prominent part. extract a notice touching him: "The dissolution of the Holkar state, the distractions that prevailed in the government of Sindia, the seditious spirit evinced by many of the Nizam's subjects, combined with the large army under Ameer Khan (whose reputation was now at its zenith), led to a very general conclusion, that he cherished plans of restoring the Mahomedan power; and there can be no doubt that had he been a man of great talent, either as a statesman or military commander, the period was most favourable; but there is every ground to believe that he at no time seriously entertained any such designs. His Patans were continually exclaiming, that the prediction of a holy mendicant, that he would be sovereign of Delhi, was nearly accomplished; but he does not appear to have encouraged such expressions or sentiments; and not only professed to act in the name of Holkar, but never took one step towards establishing any power beyond that of the leader of a predatory army, which it was his object to keep together, and subsist, by every means that the prevailing anarchy placed within his power."

"After Ameer Khan returned from Nagpoor, and relieved Jeswunt Row and his family from Dherma Kowur, he became the chief actor in a tragedy, in which a good end was obtained by a deed which revolts every feeling of humanity. A reconciliation between the Rajas of Jeypoor and Joudpoor was an object of just and wise policy; and it suited the views of the Patan chief to promote its accomplishment. It was proposed, that this should be effected by a double marriage. Jugguth Singh was to espouse the daughter of Maun Singh, and the latter the sister of his rival and enemy. To propitiate these nuptials, it was conceived that the honour of all parties required the death of Kishen Kowur, the princess of Odeypoor. The question of this sacrifice was agitated when Ameer Khan was at Odeypoor, and that chief urged it strongly on the counsellors of the Prince, representing the difficulty of establishing peace while the cause of the war existed, and then pointing out the impossibility, without offending the two most powerful Raipoot rulers in India, of giving his daughter to any other chief. To these he added arguments well suited to the high, though mistaken pride of a Rajpoot, regarding the disgrace of having in his family an unmarried daughter. It is stated, and for the honour of human nature let us believe it, that neither arguments nor threats could induce the father to become the executioner of his child, or even to urge her to suicide; but his sister, Chand Bhye, was gained to the cruel cause of policy, and she presented the chalice to Kishen Kowur, intreating her to save

her father, family, and tribe, from the struggles and miseries to which her high birth and evil destiny exposed them. The appeal was not in vain: she drank three poisoned cups, and before she took the last, she exclaimed, 'This is the marriage to which I was foredoomed.' All were acquainted with what was passing in the palace; and the extraordinary beauty and youth of the victim excited a feeling, which was general in a degree that is rare among the inhabitants of India. This account is written from the report of several persons who were on the spot, and they agree in stating that the particulars of Kishen Kowur's death were no sooner spread through the town of Odeypoor than loud lamentations burst from every quarter, and expressions of pity at her fate were mingled with execrations on the weakness and cowardice of those who could purchase safety In a short period on such terms. after this tragical event, the public feeling was again excited by the death of the mother of the princess, who never recovered the shock she received at the first intelligence of the fate of her beautiful and cherished daughter. it is to the disgrace of the nobility of Odeypoor that one of them (Adjeit Singh, a man of high rank, who possessed unbounded influence over the mind of his prince) proved base enough to act throughout as the instrument of Ameer Khan, the character of this proud race was redeemed by the conduct of Sugwan Singh, chief of Karradur, who, the moment he heard of the proceedings in the palace, hastened from his residence to Odeypoor, and dismounting from

a breathless horse, went unceremoniously into the presence of his prince, whom he found seated with several of his ministers in apparent affliction. 'Is the princess dead or alive?' was his impatient interrogation: to which, after a short pause, Adjeit Singh replied by intreating him 'not to disturb the grief of a father for a lost The old chief immediately unbuckled his sword, which, with his shield, he laid at the feet of the Maha Rana, saying, in a calm but resolute tone, 'My ancestors have served yours for more than thirty generations, and to you I cannot utter what I feel, but these arms shall never more be used in your service. you, villain!' he exclaimed, turning to Adjeit Singh, 'who have brought this ignominy upon the Rajpoot name, may the curse of a father light upon you! may you die childless!' He retired from the assembly, leaving, according to the account of those that were present, an impression of awe and horror in the minds of all who Sugwan Singh lived heard him. for eight years after this occurrence; but, though he continued in his allegiance, he never could be prevailed upon to resume his arms. The last child of Adjeit Singh died a short time ago, and the event was deemed by the superstitious Rajpoots a fulfilment of the curse that had been pronounced upon him. He maintained his influence over the mind of his weak prince till very lately, when he was disgraced, to the joy of the inhabitants of Odeypoor, who continued to consider him as the chief cause of the self-murder of their regretted princess."

16. Memorable Days in America: a Journal of a Tour to the United States, &c. By W. Faux,

an English Farmer.

"26th,-Lat. 32 deg., long. 66 deg., sailing all day seven, and at night ten knots an hour. old Southern goat, kid, Canton cocks, geese, hogs and turtles, begin to quake with northern cold. In the winter of 1817-18, the fish generally experienced a vast mortality; the shores and water, quite out at sea, were literally covered with countless tons and ship-loads of dead and dying fish: much to the discomfiture of shipping dependent on them for a supply of The cause is unknown, but supposed to be volcanic; as very frequently loud subterraneous, or rather subaqueous sounds, like the discharge of artillery, were heard in these desolate regions.

"I dined this day at my cousin Captain Rugeley's, with Mr. Irvin and family. At sunset, I visited the negro-huts, in which I found small nests or beds, full of black babies. The women were cooking corn-cakes in pans over the fire. Oak-leaves were laid over the cakes, and then hot embers or

ashes on them; thus they are speedily baked. All sectoed happy, having kind treatment. full bellies, and little thought; being unconsciously degraded to the level of the beasts that perish. Saw no church, nor heard any thing of a Sabbath. Slept at the Captain's in a good bed, curtainless, alongside the one in which himself and lady and children slept; all in one room, the only one in the house; with a fine negro-wench on the floor, at our feet, as our body-guard, all night, in readiness to hush the children. Thus patriarchally did I and my cousins dress and undress, talk and sleep. What lovely simplicity! It is all pure, unsophisticated nature-a shining contrast to all I saw at Camden.

How delicious! the nests of black babies; the absence of religious worship and prejudices; the full bellies; the huddling all together to sleep; the shining contrast of the state of nature in which white farmers and fine negro wenches were opposed to each other in pure unsophisticated nakedness:—

But there are drawbacks:-

" Negross

At an English emigrant's house, we have a match to this family scene; Mr. lagle, one of our substantial farmer settlers, and an old friend of the author's, tells us-My friend's log-house, as a first, is one of the best I have seen, having one large room, and a chamber over it, to which you climb by a ladder. It has, at present, no windows; but when the doors are shut, the crevices between the rough logs admit light and air enough, above and below. It is five yards square, and twenty feet high. At a little distance stand a stable for two horses, a corn crib, a pig-styr, and a store; for store-keeping is his intention, and it is a good one. Two beds in the room below, and one above, lodge us in the following manner; myself and Mr. Ingle in one bed; in the second, by our side, sleep six fine but dirty children, and in the chamber, Mrs. Ingle and a valuable English maid. Thus, on my abcount, husband and wife are divided. It is not unusual for a male and female to sleep in the same room uncurtained, holding conversation while in bed. In a yard adjoining the house are three sows and pigs half-starved, and several cows, calves, and horses, very poor, having no grass, no pasture, but with bells about their necks eternally ringing. Shame, or rather what is called false shame, or delicacy, does not exist here. Males dress and undress before the females, and nothing is thought of it. Here is no servant. The maid is equal to the master. No boy, or man servant. No water, but at half a mile distant. Mr. Ingle does all the jobs, and

"Negroes occasionally ride their masters' horses all night to the distance of many miles, on trading! excursions, selling what they have stolen during the week. About three weeks since, a gentleman planter of this neighbourbood had one of his slaves, a strong fellow, whipped to death for stealing. The party who presided over this horrid execution. were all, as well as the owner, drunk, a circumstance which is here offered as an excuse for murder; or rather for whipping away 1000 dollars, the prime cost of the victim.

"28th,-After dinner we went a hunting, but caught nothing, except one of the most venomous serpents, called a Mocoson, and the rattle of a rattle-snake. Examined a vegetable, said to be efficacious as a remedy for the bite of these deadly serpents, and received a root of it. It is cultivated in gardens, but taken originally from the forest. It resembled a fleur-de-lis, and a flag which grows in English marshes, and is called the Rattle-snake's Master-piece. When the leg or hand of a man is bitten, the limb is buried in the earth, until a milky decoction and fomentation can be made from this herb, which, if promptly applied externally and internally, is an unfailing specific. The burying the parts affected, prevents, it is said, the poison from circulating through the system to the heart. - - -

"About twenty miles west of Columbia, we saw a party of jurymen and other citizens, digging up the body of a slave, who had been wantonly whipped to death, and buried privately about a week since, and that too by the hands of his own master. As this is the second man thus murdered, the first being left unburied for dogs to eat, I hereby resolve to give publicity to all the particulars of the last case when I reach the city. The gentleman who disclosed to the coroner the secret of this outrageous murder, came to us, stated the case clearly, and invited us to go with him and behold what was once man, but then a mis-shapen mass of putrescence. - - -

"My host (says Mr. Faux at Washington), every where the public eulogist of America, says. that England is the place for men of fortune, but this land for the industrious bees, who cannot live there. Fools must not come, for Americans are nationally cold, jealous, suspicious and knavish. have little or no sense of honour. believing every man a rogue until they see the contrary; thinking imposition and extortion fair business, and all men fair game: kind, obliging conduct is lost upon them. A bold, saucy, independent manner towards them is necessary. They love nobody but themselves, and seem incapable of due respect for the feelings of others. They have nothing original; all that is good or new. is done by foreigners, and by the British, and yet they boast eternally.'

"Such is the rough sketch of an admiring artist, once in a state of infatuation, but now getting

more than half the hewing, splitting, and ploughing. The is all economy, all dirty-handed industry. No wood is cut in readiness for morning fires. He and the axe procure it, and provender for the poor hungry cattle, pigs, and horses. His time is continually occupied, and the young boys just breeched are made useful in every possible way."

sane and sober. The scales have left his eyes, and he begins to see to his sorrow. I, too, fancy I see something like a strong and general feeling of disappointment, pervading almost all I meet, who have recently emigrated; and, on examination, I find that my observation does not deceive me. All have over-rated America. Hope told a flattering, lying tale, and they believed her to their own undoing. A visit to this country will increase an Englishman's love for his own, whether he can or cannot live in it. If he cannot, he comes here, cursing the cause; hating the change, and hoping to return, on some fair future day, which fate may yet have in store for him.

" The Carolinians keep and train up large dogs for hunting and finding runaway or concealed negroes, who are easily scented and found by them, if they be in The mode of trainthe woods. ing is thus: Set a young negro daily to strike a pup, and then run from it. This is dog-training. My cousin, Captain H. Rugeley, in my presence ordered a young negro to strike a half-grown cur, which immediately seized the boy, who was worried a little, for my amusement and instruction. Hence these dogs, though generally docile and gentle to well dressed whites, instantly seize on any strange black man who approaches the plantation, just as an English greyhound flies upon a bare."

"At noon, I roamed into the supreme court, where I saw my new friend, the supreme judge, Wilson, on the bench, in the midst of three rustic, dirty-looking associate judges, all robeless, and dressed in coarse drab, domestic, homespun coats, dark silk handkerchiefs round their necks, and otherwise not superior in outward appearance to our low fen-farmers in England. they sat, presiding with ease and ability over a bar of plain talkative lawyers, all robeless, very funny and conversational in their speeches, manners, and conduct; dressed in plain box-coats, and sitting with their feet and knees higher than their noses, and pointing obliquely to the beach of judges; thus making their speeches and examining and cross-examining evidence at a plain long table, with a brown earthen jug of cold water before them, for occasionally wetting their whistles, and washing their quid-stained lips: all, judges, jury, counsel, witnesses, and prisoners, seemed The sufree, easy, and happy. preme judge is only distinguished from the rest by a shabby blue threadbare coat, dirty trowsers, and unblacked shoes. Thus set all their lordships, freely and frequently chewing tobacco, and appearing as uninterested as could be." •

<sup>&</sup>quot;" Judge Waggoner, who is a notorious hog-stealer, was recently accused, while sitting on the bench, by Major Hooker, the hunter, gouger, whipper, and nose-biter, of stealing many hogs, and being, although a Judge, the greatest rogue in the United States. This was the Major's answer to the question, Guilty or Not Guilty, on an indictment presented against him. The court laughed, and the Judge raved, and bade Hooker go out and he would fight him. The Major agreed, but said, 'Judge, you shall go six miles into the woods, and the longest liver shall come back to tell his tale." The Judge would not go. The Major was now, in his turn, much enraged by the

"The western-country labourers return here, unable to get paid in any way for their work, it being impossible to sell, any where or at any price, the wheat which they receive in lieu of cash. One poor fellow, after thrashing a month, returned quite unable to sell his share or bring it away; and if the farmer has twenty miles to carry it to the river, it is not worth his while to grow it, for no money can be had for it, but goods only, which he must receive at the vendor's own price, and in like manner his produce. All is done by barter. I know several whom I advised not to go westward, now repenting, and unable to raise ten dollars. They have lost much by lending, and by the reduction of their lands, which are now, though much improved, unsaleable; or if saleable, at immense loss. My partner's father (an Englishman) had 17,000 dollars, when a few years since he

went into the wilderness; but now is he indeed a repenting man, unable to raise or borrow ten dollars on or from his estate. - - -

" I must complain (says a Mr. Lidiard, an English emigrant, to our author) much of American roguery. Hardly any body cares about poor honesty and punctuality. If a man can, or is disposed to pay, he pays; if not so disposed, or not able, he smiles, and tells you to your face, he shall not pay. I saw an execution defeated lately by that boasted spirit, which they call liberty, or independence. property under execution was put up to sale, when the eldest son appeared with a huge Herculean club, and said, 'Gentlemen, you may bid for and buy these bricks and things, which were my father's, but, by ----, no man living shall come on to this ground with horse and cart to fetch them away. The land is

Judge ordering him into court to pay a fine of ten dollars for some former offence, the present indictment being suffered to drop. ---

"Last week, in the state of Delaware, the High Sheriff had to perform the duty of Jack Ketch, and hang his own nephew, for the murder of its oun mother, the Sheriff's sister. The youth killed her by striking her with a club on the temple. In the same neighbourhood, and the same week, another youth was sent to gool for poisoning his uncle, a rich old gentleman, who being childless, had taken this nephew into the house, and made him heir to all; but the youth being impatient, went to a druggist for arsenic, which he said was to kill the rats, that every night kept his uncle from sleeping. He mixed a portion of it in a glass of apple-toddy, and gave it to his uncle, but in so large a portion that it began to operate immediately, on which the old man said, 'You have given me something to do me harm.' The youth denied it, but the old man grew rapidly sick, and feeling conscious that he was poisoned, and should die before the distant doctor could arrive, got out the will in favour of the ungrateful youth, and having burnt it, died soon after.

vania, conspired together to procure a pardon from the governor by threats and intimidation. Their plan was to get the governor into a room to themselves, and offer him his own life for the pardon of Lieut. Smith, the convict, who had cohabited with Mrs. Carson, and taken possession of her house and property, during the absence of her husband, Capt. Carson. When the latter returned and demanded his wife and property, he was shot dead in his own house by Smith. The governor had intelligence of the plot, and seized the conspirators before they could carry their design into

effect.'

mine, and if the buyer takes any thing away, it shall be on his back.' The father had transferred the land, and all on it, to the son, in order to cheat the law. body was, therefore, found to bid or buy. I, therefore, (continues Mr. L.) decline all transactions with Americans, it being impossible with safety to buy or sell any thing of importance under their present paper system. - - - Land here gives a man no importance; store-keepers and clerks rank much above farmers, who are never seen in genteel parties and circles. - - The land is full of all useful grass seeds, which only want sun and air to call them into a smothering superabundance. But what is land, however rich, without population to cultivate it, or a market to consume its produce, which is here bought much under what either I or you could raise it for. Farmers are consequently men of no importance. They live, it is true, and will always live; but I much doubt if ever the important English farmer could be satisfied with such living and farming. I feel great difficulty in advising any friends on the subject of emigration. I mean to wait two years longer before I do it. Liberty and independence, of which you and I thought so much and so highly, while on the other side of the Atlantic, sink and fade in va-·lue on a nearer view. Nobody here properly appreciates, but almost all abuse, this boasted Liberty here means to liberty. do each as he pleases; to care for nothing and nobody, and cheat every body. If I buy an estate, and advance money before I get a title, it is ten to one but I

lose it, and never get a title that is worth having. My garden cost me this summer only 50 dollars, and all the produce was stolen by boys and young men, who professed to think they had the liberty to do so. If you complain to their friends and superiors, the answer is, 'Oh, it is only a boyish trick, not worth notice.' And again, I tell the gentlemen, that if I wished to be social and get drunk with them, I dare not; for they would take the liberty to scratch me like a tiger, and gouge, and dirk me. I cannot part with my nose and eyes. The friendly equality and intercourse, however, which can be had with all ranks and grades, and the impossibility of coming to absolute poverty, are the finest features of this country. 'You are going to Birkbeck's settlement?'-- 'I am, sir.'- I visited both Birkbeck and Flower in June last. Birkbeck is a fine man, in a bad He was worth about 10,000l. sterling, but has deceived himself and others. Both his and Flower's settlement (which are all one,) is all a humbug. They are all in the mire, and cannot get out; and they, therefore, by all manner of means and arts, endeavour to make the best of it. - - - I would prefer Birkbeck for a neighbour, dressed up, as he is, in a little mean chip hat, and coarse domestic clothes Harmony, living in a little loghouse, smoking segars, and drinking bad whisky, just as I found him, rough as he was. Mr. G. Flower is inducing mechanics to come from all parts to settle, although there is no employment for them, nor any market now, nor in future, at New Orleans or elsewhere

elsewhere, for produce, unless a war comes, which may require America to supply other nations in want." "

17. Travels in Egypt and Nubia, Syria and Asia Minors; during the years 1817 and 1818. By the Hon. Charles Leonard Irby, and James Mangles, Commanders in the Royal Navy. "Printed for Private Distribution."

" In the evening, while towing the boat, our sailors found a torpedo on the very brink of the river, apparently asleep; it was curious to observe their caution and timidity in approaching it; they, however, succeeded in sticking one of their daggers in his head, and by that means hauled it on shore; our Egyptian crew had done the same near Beni Hassan. We got the fish on board, and, though nearly dead, it sensibly affected my arm in laying hold of it; I felt a double shock up the arm near the elbow. It was about two feet long: had very small eyes; the belly and top of the back white; one dorsal fin, and the sides were coloured dark-brown with black spots; it had no scales. Our sailors in Egypt ate the one they caught, but the present crew would not touch this, even when dead, and consequently harmless, much more eat it. They all said we avoided the shock by uttering a charm, or some magic influence. using This day one of the boys of our crew brought on board a chameleon; he caught it in an acassia (called in Nubia the soont) tree, which they affect more than the date, or any other tree in this country. On coming on board, it hissed and shewed symptoms of anger, evincing at the same time a great desire to make its escape. It was then of a dirty green colour, with dark spots, and whenever it was approached it turned to a dusky brown, inflating itself at the same time. I conclude that one hue is the effect of fear. and the other of indifference. We had subsequently eight of these animals on board; some of them became so tame, that when the flies annoyed us much, we had only to take one of the chameleons in our hand, and place it near the flies, and it would catch them with its long tongue in great numbers."

Respecting the Nubians, we shall extract a few of the most novel scraps:—

<sup>&</sup>quot;Mr. Faux, who himself saw the Settlement, more than corroborates the above account;—" I called at an adjoining farm, rented by a dirty, naked-legged French family, who, though born in this country, know nothing of the English language. Then at Mr. Hunt's, who is deaf and dumb (the brother of Henry Hunt, the Champion of Reform,) who, with his nephew, a son of Henry, came here, about a year since, to three quarter sections of land; of which they have cultivated only six acres. They live in a little one-room miserable log-cabin, doing all the labour of the house and land themselves, and without any female. We found them half naked and in rags, busily greasing a cart, or mending a plough. They appeared only as labourers.

--- We entered their cabin, and took some boiled beef on a board, and sat on their bed and boxes, having no chairs, stools, or tables, and only the mean clothes they them wore; a fire having recently destroyed their first cabin with all its contents. Being disappointed in English remittances, and unable to get letters from thence, which they thought had been intercepted, they were out of funds, and their land was uncultivated, unsown, and selling for the payment of taxes."

them to estimate a short journey by the number of pipes they can smoke during its performance."

In the tent of the Cashief Daoud, it is stated "We observed a shield made of crocodile's skin; it was remarkably strong; one of the protuberances of the animal's back served for the boss or centre, and one of those of the tail for the hollow of the elbow. The natives assured us it would resist a musquet-ball; and if the skin of the living animal possesses this power, I do not see why one should doubt the assertion. In general, Nubian shields are made of the skin of the hippopotamus."

"These people think themselves very cunning in schemes to deceive strangers. Few of them smoke; instead of which they use salt and tobacco mixed, enveloped in wool, and kept between the under lip and gum; the boys commence this practice when quite young. They are all rogues, but being bred up in such principles, do not think there is any harm in being so; the opprobrious terms, harame, cadab (thief -liar,) are not considered abusive with them, as they have no notion of honesty, and cannot possibly keep from pilfering any thing within their reach; we detected our sailors at this work almost daily, but they always made a joke of it. The several districts differ much in regard to dress, and particularly in the manner of wearing the hair, some have it curled, 'à la Brutus,' others plaited and hanging down with great uniformity, in ringlets, to the shoulders, where it is cut off square at the bottom, and looks exactly like a mop. The latter

grease their locks plentifully with oil; the former have generally a skewer sticking in their hair in readiness to disturb any animalcule which may bite too hard. There is great difference in the features and make of the several Nubian tribes." - - -

--- " At Houarti. As this was the village of our crew, we were obliged to reconcile our minds to stop for three days. while they made merry with their friends and relations. We had scarcely arrived here an bour. when our reis came to ask us to lend him the two mummy-cases which we had on board. He said he should like to have them up at the village for an hour; we lent them immediately, not having any idea of his reason for borrowing them. On the following day, however, we found out; for numbers of women came down and requested them, when they alternately walked three times round them, crossing over them each time: this we found was to procure them families. this time the women were constantly arriving, young and old, and all going through the same ceremony; they were all very serious during the performance of this mystery, and seemed to think it odd that we laughed so much."

In the Temple of Isis, at Tentyra, say the authors, "We examined the temple, and did not forget the little chamber, in which we had before noticed the circular astronomical table on the ceiling to be a monument of the same kind as the Isiac table which we had seen at Turin. It was in the ceiling of the other half of this chamber that Mr. Ruppell discovered a complete lunar system,

which

which had totally escaped Denon, and all the other French savans. Mr. R. took an exact copy of this interesting tablet, clearly making it to contain twelve moons and a bit of another, which no doubt was meant for the odd five days, as the twelve make three hundred and sixty. As this throws an additional light on the Egyptian mode of calculating the year, it is a matter of no small interest, and reflects the more credit on Mr. Ruppell, as so many travellers have examined this chamber, and this circumstance never occurred In the great French to them. work they have put down fourteen or fifteen moons, never having taken the trouble to count them.'

Tiberias. — "Here we were dreadfully bitten by a red sort of vermin which is the annoyance of camels in this country; it was soft like a maggot. In the morning we found ourselves studded all over with deep crimson spots, from which it would appear there is much venom in the bite of this disgusting animal. I shall take this opportunity of remarking, that a traveller in these countries, however much the very thoughts may shock him at first, must make up his mind, and reconcile his feelings, to being constantly covered with lice and fleas; we kill every day from ten to twenty of these guests, which are always to be found on every mat or cushion used in the country. These nauseous visitors seldom get into the head, but crawl about your shirt and clothes. Everv native you see in the country is covered with vermin; and if you ask why they have such a plentiful store, while we are comparatively so little annoyed by them,

they tell you 'it is the curse of God on them.' The other day I cut my foot, and our Arab Seys, (the same that has accompanied us all the way from Yaffa,) who is always washing himself, and is a very cleanly person, tore off a small piece of the sleeve of his shirt for my hurt; the piece was about three inches long, by two wide, and before using it I killed three lice and two fleas on it; this will speak more than all I can say on the subject. Bugs are also very plentiful, and in Egypt our rooms were full of them.'

The general description of

Petra is very striking:—

"As we advanced (by the eastern approach), the natural features of the defile grew more and more imposing at every step, and the excavations and sculpture more frequent on both sides, till it presented at last a continued street of tombs, beyond which the rocks gradually approaching each other, seemed all at once to close without any outlet. There is, however, one frightful chasm for the passage of the stream, which furnishes, as it did anciently, the only avenue to Petra on this side. It is impossible to conceive any thing more awful or sublime than such an approach; the width is not more than just sufficient for the passage of two horsemen abreast; the sides are in all parts perpendicular, varying from four hundred to seven hundred feet in height, and they often overhang to such a degree, that without their absolutely meeting, the sky is intercepted and completely shut out for one hundred yards together, and there is little more light than in a cavern.

"The screaming of the eagles, hawks.

hawks, and owls, who were soaring above our heads in considerable numbers, seemingly annoyed at any one approaching their lonely habitation, added much to the singularity of this scene. tamarisk, the wild fig, and the oleander, grow luxuriantly about the road, rendering the passages often difficult; in some places they hang down most beautifully from the cliffs and crevices where they had taken root: the caper plant was also in luxuriant growth, the continued shade furnishing them with moisture.

" Very near the first entrance into this romantic pass, a bold arch is thrown across at a great height, connecting the opposite sides of the cliff. Whether this was part of an upper road upon the summit of the mountain, or whether it be a portion of an aqueduct, which seems less probable, we had no opportunity of examining; but as the traveller passes under it, its appearance is most surprising, hanging thus above his head betwixt two rugged masses apparently inaccessible. Immediately under it are sculptured niches in the rock, destined probably for statues; and we suspect that by careful inspection inscriptions might be found there: but the position in which they are viewed is disadvantageous, and the height so great that it would require a good glass to distinguish them. Farther down, upon a much lower level, there is an object frequently repeated in sculpture along the roadside, which we were at a loss to explain: an altar is represented in a niche, upon which is set a mass of a lumpish form, sometimes square and sometimes curved in its outline, or ris-

ing in other instances to a sharper or obtuser cone; in one instance three of them are coupled together in one niche. It might possibly be a representation of the god Terminus, or perhaps one of the stones which were objects of worship amongst the Arabs, down to the time of the coming of Mahommed. The number of these representations on the face of the rock is very considerable; in some instances there are many, almost contiguous, with Greek inscriptions on them, all of which are too much defaced to be of use in explaining their object. The ravine, without changing much its general direction, presents so many elbows and windings in its course, to which the track, of necessity, conforms, that the eye can seldom penetrate forward beyond a few paces, and is often pussled to distinguish in what direction the passage will open, so completely does it appear obstructed. The exact spot was not pointed out to us, but it is somewhere amidst these natural horrors, that upwards of thirty pilgrims from Barbary were murdered last year by the men of Wade Mousa on their return from Mecca. wrapping cloak of one of them was afterwards offered to us for sale at Ipseyra, and one of their watches at Zaphoely. Rosa never conceived so savage and suitable a quarter for basditti. - - -

"We followed this sort of half subterranean passage for the space of nearly two miles, the sides increasing in height as the path continually descended, while the tops of the precipices retained their former level. Where they are at the highest, a beam of

stronger light breaks in at the close of the dark perspective, and opens to view, half seen at first through the tall narrow opening, columns, statues, and cornices; of a light and finished taste, as if fresh from the chisel, without the tints or weather stains of age, and executed in a stone of a pale rose colour, which warmed at the moment we came in sight of them with the full light of the morning sun. The dark green of the shrubs that grow in this perpetual shade, and the sombre appearance of the passage from whence we were about to issue, formed a fine contrast with the glowing colour of the edifice. We know not with what to compare this scene; perhaps there is nothing in the world that resembles it. Only a portion of a very extensive architectural elevation is seen at first, but it has been so contrived that a statue with expanded wings perhaps of Victory, just fills the centre of the aperture in front, which being closed below by the sides of the rock folding over each other, gives to the figure the appearance of being suspended in the air at a considerable height; the ruggedness of the cliffs below setting off the sculpture to the highest advantage. The rest of the design opened gradually at every pace as we advanced, till the narrow defile which. had continued thus far, without any increase of breadth, spreads on both sides into an open area of a moderate size, whose sides are by nature inaccessible, and present the same awful and romantic features as the avenues which lead to it: this opening gives admission to a great body of light from the eastward. The position is one 1823.

of the most beautiful that could be imagined for the front of a great temple, the richness and exquisite finish of whose decorations offer a most remarkable contrast to the savage scenery which surrounds it.

"It is of a very lofty proportion, the elevation comprising two stories. The taste is not exactly to be commended, but many of the details and ornaments, and the size and proportion of the great door-way especially, which there are five steps of ascent from the portico, are very No part is built, the whole being purely a work of excavation, and its minutest embellishments, wherever the hand of man has not purposely effaced and obliterated them, are so perfect, that it may be doubted whether any work of the ancients, excepting, perhaps, some on the banks of the Nile, have come down to our time so little injured by the lapse There is, in fact, scarceof ages. ly a building of forty years standing in England, so well preserved in the greater part of its architectural decorations."

18. Remarks on the Country extending from Cape Palmas to the River Congo, including Observations on the Manners and Customs of the Inhabitants, &c. &c. By Captain John Adams. London, 1823.

The government of the Fantees (on whose territory Cape Coast is situated) is republican. "A number of old men called Pinins, at the head of whom is Ammoonicummy, are arbiters in common disputes which occur between the natives of Annamaboo, or between them and Europeans; but disputes

putes of a more serious nature, such as may affect the liberties or properties of men of wealth and consequence, are generally referred to the lawyers of the Brasoo country, who, like their brethren of the long robe in civilised Europe, generally contrive to strip hoth plaintiff and defendant of

their property. - - -

"The Pinins of Annamaboo are well pleased when can involve in a palaver an European; for they expect a rich harvest, and prompt payment. This experiment they tried upon us, though, fortunately, without effect. Being anxious not to be entirely dependent on the natives for a supply of fish, some nets were purchased for the use of the vessel, and which were set every evening, and examined every morning, to receive their pro-Taking or disturbing the net of a fisher, is considered a heinous offence by the Fantees, and, when detected, is punished by a heavy fine being imposed on the offending individual. A number of nets had been stolen, and as ours were purchased at Cape Coast unknown to the natives of Annamaboo, we were supposed to be the guilty persons. Accordingly, a few days after we had commenced using them, we were surprised by a visit from the Pinins, or elders, who came on board in full costume, to demand reparation for their injured countryman. Independently of the advanced age of these gentlemen, they have in their dress some distinguishing marks, and, like Quakers, always wear their hats wherever they may be, and which have forms peculiar to their calling, by which they are as readily known in the villages where they reside,

as counsellors are by their wigs in Courts of Assise. These hats are made of straw, have broad brims, perfectly circular, and shallow crowns, with tufts of dried grass in the centre, and which are probably used to cover percraniums as naturally acute and sagacious as those immense, powdered, hairy, three-bobbed was are, that seem to give importance and apparent wisdom to the logical nobs of English barristers.

"The Pining, with much gravity in their countenances, took their seats in the cabin, and, being supplied with half a pint each of neat brandy, swallowed it, glass as ter glass, in quick time, and gave increased sest to this their favourite beverage, by making their mouths receptacles for it, instead of their stomachs, where the brandy remained until more was ready to replace it, when it was allowed to pass into its natural depository. Having performed all due homes to their favourite god Bacchus, Obeky, the senior of the eight, opened the case, and addressed me as follows :--- 'You be old man for dis country; you all same Ammoonioummy son; you all same Fantee man; you do bad nobody; you owe one leaf tabec, you pay; all poor cance men like sell you fowl, duck, yam, fish tot. You no want fish now; you .catch 'em all same black man; you hab black man net too. Agar man, name Quacco, less net; some man teef him; we no say you teef him; you hab for ship, Brinny one (white men bad,) no know we custom. Suppose he be teef for Aberrikirry (England,) he no be teef for dis water : suppose black man teef, he catch palaver; Brinny teef catch palaver

# In

"In this strain of Fantee eloquence, Obeky continued his harangue during a period of fifteen or twenty minutes. His comrades, otherwise silent, when any thing in his speech pleased them, called out 'Ampa, ampa!' or true, true! a practice they adopt when speechifying in large assemblies on shore, and which may be considered something similar to the 'hear, hear!' in the Commons House of Parliament. When he had concluded his speech, I called two black boys, the sons of goldtakers, into the cabin, who informed the Pinins that they had seen the nets purchased by me from Quashy Too, at Cape Coast: on receiving this information, they were evidently disappointed, and, instead of receiving three or four ounces of gold, besides the value of the nets, which they had calculated on, were happy to obtain, in the way of compliment, two gallons of brandy, a few pipes, and leaves of tobacco, when they retired in tolerable good humour, first making a suitable apology for their unjust suspicion and intrusion."

Captain Adams next describes one of their horrid funeral cere-monies, called a "Custom."

"The period had arrived, when Tacky Mensa, a wealthy trader and inhabitant of Annamaboo, had to make custom for his ancestors. Five unfortunate victims were to be immolated to the manes of the decessed, and gunpowder, brandy, cloth, and provisions, distributed to the multitude. A vast number of persons assembled at Annamaboo, from different parts of the republic of Fantee, to assist at, and give importance to the ceremony. A little before day-break in the morning, when

the obsequies for the deceased commenced, vollies of muskets, the noise of drums, and savage shouts, were heard in every direction; and about eight o'clock, a large concourse of persons, of both sexes and all ages, had collected at and near Tacky Mensa's house, to whom brandy was distributed in large quantities. Firing, shouting, and drinking, continued till mid-day, when the five victims were brought out from a hut with their hands bound, and with ligatures made of the bine of a creeping plant surrounding their heads, and which came over their eyes and noses, and by introducing pieces of sticks, and twisting them round, making what sailors call Spanish windlasses, the bones of their noses were forced in, and their eyes sunk deeper in their sockets. One of these unfortunate beings was a very old Asshantee man; the remaining four were natives of Chamba, and all men, two of whom were middle-aged, one very old, the other young. Before they were led to execution. every effort was made by the Europeans to purchase them, but without effect. The poor creatures, in this state of suffering, were paraded through the town, and received every ignominy that savage cruelty could devise or inflict, without a sigh escaping them, and were ultimately taken to the beach, under the very walls of the fort, where they were butchered amidst the most savage and diabolical shouts of the multitude. Even females assisted at the horrid ceremony, and marked themselves with the blood of the wretched victims, as it flowed from their headless trunks; and, horrible to relate, libations of brandy were poured into, and drank from 1 2 human

buman skulls, which a few minutes before had life and being. Vollies of musquetry were fired, savage dances performed, and intoxication was carried to excess during three days and three nights, when the custom-making ceased. customs, or obsequies to the manes of deceased ancestors, are often carried to such excess by individuals, as to leave them in a state of extreme poverty; but all men of consequence are compelled, at some period of their lives, to perform this savage act of duty to those who have long been numbered with the dead, or they would be degraded, and held in the low-. est estimation by their countrymen; but more especially by their own townsmen."

" The And also at Lagos. horrid custom of impaling alive a young female, to propitiate the favour of the goddess presiding over the rainy season, that she may fill the horn of plenty, is practised here annually. The immolation of this victim to superstitious usage takes place soon after the vernal equinox; and along with her are sacrificed sheep and goats, which, together with yams, heads of maize, and plantains, are hung on stakes on each side of Females destined thus to be destroyed, are brought up for the express purpose in the king's or caboceer's seraglio; and it is said, that their minds have previously been so powerfully wrought upon by the fetiche men, that they proceed to the place of execution with as much cheerfulness as those infatuated Hindoo women who are burnt with their husbands. One was impaled while I was at Lagos, but of course I did not witness the ceremony. I passed by where the lifeless body still remained on the stake a few days afterwards."

The population of the town of Lagos may amount to 5000; but there are two or three populous villages on the north side of Cradoo lake, over which the caboceer of Lagos has jurisdiction. This chief's power is absolute, and his disposition tyrannical to excess;

his name is Cootry.

"When I first paid him a visit, (says Captain Adams,) he was holding a levee, and dispensing favours to his courtiers with his own royal hand, which consisted of pieces of the putrid carcase of Each individual crawled a cow. to the foot of the throne, upon his hands and knees (rubbing, occasionally, his forehead in the dust,) to receive the princely gift, and, with well-bred politeness, and courtier - like servility, crawled back again to his seat, his posteriors first advancing, like those of a bear's, when it descends a tree. The room, however, was so intolerably hot, and the stench from the carrion so offensive, that I was compelled to make a precipitate retreat, or forfeit all claim to an acquaintance with royalty, by committing a breach of good manners, which a violent nausea at the stomach warned me was fast approaching; so that I had not an opportunity of witnessing at this time the effect of King Cootry's royal munificence to his courtiers, although I felt the full force of it upon myself.

"The entrance leading to the audience chamber presented a very curious spectacle. It was an oblong room of considerable length, having an opening along the centre of the roof to admit

light

light and air. At one extremity, there was arranged the King's fetiche, which consisted of three clining posture against the wall, with the convex part outwards, and sprinkled with blood. On each side of the apartment, there were tumbled together, promiscuously, articles of trade, and costly presents, in a state of dilapidation; namely, rolls of tobacco, boxes of pipes, cases of gin, ankers of brandy, pieces of cloth of Indian and European manufacture, iron bars, earthenware; a beautiful hand-organ, the bellows of which were burst; two elegant chairs of state, having rich crimson damask covers, all in tatters; a handsome sedan chair, without a bottom; and two expensive sofas, without legs. These, I presume, were placed thus conspicuously, with a view to impress the minds of those persons who were permitted to approach the royal presence, with ideas of the wealth and grandeur of his sable Majesty; and politically, might perhaps be considered as something similar to the pageantry with which it is thought necessary to surround royalty in civilized countries, and which have so captivating and imposing an effect on the unthinking and vul-

"Cootry, like many of his royal brethren in Africa, is a receiver of stolen goods; for he does not hesitate to share what his servants purloin: and that servant is his greatest favourite who can rob his European friends with most address.

"It was no secret to the master of a vessel, that his storehouse was clandestinely entered, and

robbed of several bags of corn by one of the King's domestics; and he sent a message to the elephant's teeth placed in a re- black monarch, that if he caught the thief in the act, he would shoot him, whoever he might be. The opportunity soon occurred, and the man was shot when in the act of taking away upon his head a bag of corn. When the King was informed of the circumstance. his only remark was, that the fellow was a fool, and not a pro-

per man for a thief.

"On interrogating Occondo, the King's favourite and linguist, respecting the elephant's teeth, and why they were Cootry's fetiche, his answer was, that the elephant being more sagacious and stronger than any other animal, he represented best (metaphorically, of course) Cootry's powce over his subjects. If the black monarch had been acquainted with heraldry, it would be a reasonable inference to draw, that his fetiche was in reality his coat of arms; and certainly a black African king and an elephant would be much more natural and appropriate than St. George and a dragon.

"The policy of this African despot, in ordering the devil to pay his metropolis an occasional visit, is by no means a weak stratagem, especially when we hear of learned divines and holy doctors being called on in civilized countries to subdue the dark spirit, and drive him out of some old bedridden hypochondriac or impostor.

"Cootry's devil is no aerial spirit, for he is a devil in reality; an armed man licensed to commit murder. His avocation is to run through the different avenues of the town, disguised in a mask, and to destroy all who may chance to fall in his way; but as notice is given by the Gong Gong, or bellman, of his intended nocturnal visit, it is but seldom any person loses his life. Europeans receive notice, and are requested not to leave their houses on the evening of his appearance, as the devil in Lagos is no respecter of persons. The fellow who performs the part comes from one of the villages on the opposite side of the lake; and the inhabitants of Lagos are certainly much alarmed at his visits, and inquire from their neighbours, the following morning, in whispers, how they fared during the night.

Besides the public warning usually given on such occasions, the devil always makes his appearance at full moon; so that if the King should be out raking, he may not mistake his royal master for a subject, although it would be a favourable opportunity to rid

the people of a tyrant."

Other curious African circumstances are detailed in the follow-

inø:

"Male dogs are banished to the towns opposite to Lagos; for if any are caught there, they are immediately strangled, split, and trimmed like sheep, and hung up at the door of some great man, where rows of the putrid carcases of their canine brethren are often to be seen. They are fetiche, and intended to countervail the machinations of the evil spirit.

"At the eastern extremity of the town, there are a few large trees, which are covered with the heads of malefactors. The skulls are nailed to the trunks and large limbs, and present a very appal-

ling spectacle.

The town swarms with water rats from the lake, which burrow in the ground, and are so audacious that they not unfrequently make their appearance under the dinner-table while the guests remain sitting at it.

"In the centre of the market at Grewhe, there is a large tree, very similar to the mulberry, except that the branches grow hori-

zontal.

"This tree presents a most extraordinary spectacle; for along its branches, thousands of bats, of the largest species, hang suspended by their claws, and with their heads downwards, during the day, and do not seem to be at all disturbed by the noise beneath them, although not in a state of somnolency. I shot several, each of which measured, between the extremities of the wings, two feet; the form of their head bears a strong resemblance to that of a horse, but having the eyes, teeth, and whiskers of an immense rat.

"One of the singular customs of the people of Grewhe, as well as those of Popo, is the admission of females into the order of priesthood; a custom which has not been noticed by Governor Dalsel in his History of Dahomy. An account of the ceremony practised on this occasion may be amusing

to the reader.

"A young female, generally the daughter of a Fetiche Man or priest, is selected for the purpose, who undergoes a probationary penance that continues aim months, previous to her admission into holy orders. During this period, she is initiated by the priests into all the mysteries and chicanery

chicanery of the religion of their forefathers, which consisted in the worship of the black and white snake, and in the mummery of giving sanctity to bones, rags, &c.

"When she appears in public during the period of her probation, her manner is grave and solemn; her skin is painted with a kind of white clay; rows of shells, of various forms and sizes, are hung upon her neck, arms, and ancles; and her loins are girt with long grass, which reaches to her knees. A dwelling is provided for her, in which she cats and sleeps alone, and into which none are admitted but fetiche men and women. At the expiration of the six months a large assemblage of men, women, and children, accompanied by the various orders of priesthood, and the musicians belonging to the town, takes place on an open space of ground, to assist at, and also to witness, the last grand ceremony.

"Soon after assembling, the women form a circle by joining hands, among whom are the companions of the noviciate's youth, and also her relations, who commence dancing circularly, reversing the movements alternately, after making one complete circle. The dancing is accompanied by the most barbarous and horrid din imaginable, caused by the musicians beating on drums, tom-toms, genge, and blowing horns manufactured out of elephants' teeth and reeds: to which are added the most strange and uncouth grimaces and contortions of the faces and bodies of the priests, so that a spectator might easily imagine them to be a number of maniacs. who had been turned loose to give effect to the ceremony: and were it not for the presence of the little children, who look on, with fear and astonishment depicted in their countenances, would be no bad representation of Pandemonium.

"The noviciate, soon after dancing commences, is brought out, by apparent force, from a little but which had concealed her from the spectators, and placed in the centre of the circle formed by the dancing females, from whom she endeavours to escape to the hut whence she had been brought, and this she is allowed to accomplish. This ceremony is repeated three times; an incantation is then delivered by the chief priest, and the farce ends.

"One of the conditions by which a female is admitted into the order of priesthood, is that of leading a life of celibacy, and renouncing the pleasures of the world: and but few are admitted to enter it at all." - -

We may append to this general picture the portrait of a rich savage of Ardrah:

"The government is republican, although some of the leading men exercise over the common people a kind of influence derived from hereditary right, and seem to divide the power of governing them with others who have acquired considerable wealth by their commercial dealings.

"These men, when they appear in public, either on visits of ceremony, or for recreation, are always attended by one or two hundred domestic slaves and retainers, who are armed with clubs, cutlasses, and other weapons.

"The most wealthy man in the town is Tammata, but who is bet-

ter known by his European name Monsieur Pierre. He is a native of Housa, and was originally a slave and taken to France by the master of a French vessel, when very young. Being a sharp boy, he was sent to school, where he was taught reading, writing, and accounts: and his services to his master, during his trading voyages to Africa, were afterwards so beneficial, that he gave him his freedom, and assisted him to commence business on his own account, by granting him credit to a considerable amount. Speaking the Housa, Eyeo, and French languages, his business (that of a slave merchant) became very extensive; and he soon outstripped his competitors in wealth and influence: as these increased. his dwelling was enlarged, the number of his wives and domestics augmented, and his whole establishment assumed something of a royal form. His house contains upwards of thirty apartments, and his seraglio nearly as many wives; and the whole is surrounded by a high mud wall, which encloses an area of about ten statute acres. His furniture is a mixture of French and African; for, although he is ostentatious in the display of his European finery, his taste is pure African. dresses as an European; and his dejeunés and dinés are quite à la mode de Français, of which a number of French officers are constant partakers, Monsieur Pierre sitting at the head, and performing the honours of the table. his back are arranged a number of his youngest wives, who wait upon him exclusively, and place before him those dishes adapted

to his taste; which consist of vegetables, fish, and animal food, highly seasoned, well buttered with palm oil, and wherein potash is mixed in lieu of salt, and which seasoning is very commonly used as a substitute for salt by the natives of Ardrah, Housa, and Eveo. His wives tasted each dish in his presence, and before it was placed on the table; a precaution he is in the constant habit of having performed by them, in order to deter them from mixing any thing in his food of a deleterious quality. Silver forks are appendages of his table; and I was often amused at the dexterity he displayed in their use, although be sometimes forgot himself, and thrust his black paw into the dish, instead of the fork, which disconcerted him for the moment, as it generally excited among his European guests a hearty laugh at his expense, which he by no means relished. Had one of his wives or domestics relaxed a muscle of their face on such an occasion, their liberty would, in all probability, have been forfeited for the offence. He is a man of naturally quick parts, but combined with a savage disposition, which neither education, nor a constant intercourse with Europeans, has at all ameliorated; and the acquisition of considerable property has operated upon him in the same manner as we often perceive it does on the low and vulgar in civilized countries, by rendering them arrogant, despotic and overbearing, and who, if they had the same power as this African savage, would probably sacrifice, with as little remorse, the liberties, and even the lives of human beings, who might become

become objects of their suspicion or resentment.

" Monsieur Pierre is naturally avaricious; the increase of his wealth therefore created an increased desire to secure it. caused a considerable excavation to be made under one of the interior apartments of his dwelling, by a number of his domestic slaves, by whom, and his confidential females, the secret only was known; and to secure the secret still further, he had the poor fellows who made the excavation put into sacks, and conveyed to the sea-side by a number of Fantee canoe men, who afterwards took them on board of a French ship, then on the point of sailing for the West Indies.

"He gave (a little before I went to Ardrah) a proof of the ferocity of his disposition, by ordering the keeper of his slaves to be beheaded for having allowed two of them to escape; and the headless trunk of his body, I saw tied up in a mat, and lying exposed in a hole, from which clay had been taken, and very near the gate which led Among his Euto his dwelling. ropean acquirements, that of blowing the French horn was his favourite, as he generally gave a few flourishes upon it every evening, especially when any traders belonging to Hio had arrived from that kingdom, before whom he was very proud of exhibiting his skill. He is an excellent player at billiards, and has a large billiard-table placed in a room built expressly for the purpose, the walls of which are mud lined with split bamboo, over which a fine paper is ingeniously placed; and against it there hangs several portraits of the various members of the Bourbon family. Elegant sofas and chairs complete the furniture of the apartment."

"Human sacrifices are not so frequent here as in some parts of Africa; yet besides those immolated on the death of great men, three or four are annually sacrificed at the mouth of the river, as votive offerings to the sea, to direct vessels to bend their course to this horrid climate.

"It is expected that every vessel, on her arrival, will fire a salute the instant the anchor is let go, as a compliment to the black monarch, who soon afterwards makes his appearance in a large canoe. at which time all those natives who happen to be alongside of the vessel are compelled to proceed in their canoes to a respectful distance, and make way for his Majesty's barge. After a few compliments to the captain, he usually enquires after brother George (meaning the king of England), and hopes he and his family are well. He is not pleased unless he is regaled with the best the ship affords; and, on returning to his canoe, expects to find a little store of sugar, tea, butter, white biscuit, and wine. Presents of greater value and bulk are sent to him in the ship's boat, His power is absolute; and the surrounding country, to a considerable distance, is subject to his His war canoes are dominion. capable of carrying one hundred and forty persons each, and have often a gun of large calibre mounted on the bow. He has destroyed the town of New Calabar twice, and boasts of having eaten part of the heart of its king.

His Jew Jew, or fetiche house, is ornamented with rows of the skulls of captives taken in battle. - - -

"The ignana is the Bonnians' fetiche, or Jew Jew; and these reptiles may be seen crawling about the town, where they are caressed and fed by the natives; and he, into whose house one of them enters; thinks himself most fortunate. One day, when thirty or forty canoes surrounded the vessel, an iguana was discovered near the middle of the river, proceeding to Peter's side, which is opposite to Bonny, when all the canoes immediately pushed off; and great was the contention among them, as to who should reach the reptile first, and ferry it to the spot, to which it seemed to be bending its course. When they returned, I joked with them, and stated my belief that their hurry proceeded not so much with a view to help the iguana quickly over the river, as to prevent the Calabar Jew Jew (the shark) from catching it: but they said the shark dare not touch it. Had there not, however, been at the time a strong tide running when the sharks usually remain at the bottom, the Calabar deity would have swallowed at a mouthful the Bonnians' object of ado-The sharks in this river are enormously large, and numerous that scarcely any living thing that falls overboard escapes them, however promptly assistance may be rendered: and I have witnessed some distressing scenes caused by them. This voracious fish is, as I have before remarked. the Calabarians' Jew Jew; and a great number of them frequent the creek before the town, where they are regularly fed. A criminal is compelled to swim over the creek, which is a species of ordeal; and a more certain means of destroying him could scarcely be devised, yet giving him something like a chance for his life, for not one in twenty escape: those who do are pronounced innocent. - - -

"Human sacrifices are common. When a chief dies, many of his wives are destroyed, and intered

with him. - - -

"Some of the traders have become extremely opulent in consequence of the great extent to
which the trade in slaves has been
carried on by them, and are in
possession of European articles
to a considerable amount, especially unwrought iron and copper.
There is so large a mass of the
former accumulated in King Pepple's house, that it is supposed,
by its continually increasing
quantity, to be buried as many
feet under the ground as above it;
viz. six or eight feet.

"A trader here, named John Africa, and who has been several voyages to England, is endowed with an extraordinary memory. I have known him to have open running accounts with fourteen or fifteen vessels at the same time, wherein the debit sides exhibited long lists of various articles received by him at different periods on credit; yet he could tell to a bunch of beads the exact state of each account when he came to settle it, although he could neither read nor write. He possesses 8 natural talent for irony, which the following anecdote will show:-

"A considerable part of the town was destroyed by fire, on which occasion many of the traders lost much property, one of whom was John Africa. The

captains

captains of the vessels then in the river went on shore to condole with them on their loss, and to offer them such assistance as they had the power of granting. On landing, they found the principal men assembled together, and joined Soon afterwards, John Africa commenced an harangue, and stated the great loss he with others had sustained by the fire, and, directing his discourse to one of the captains in particular, said, 'Me tank you too much: you be proper man for dis country. Me lose all ting, no more two puncheon brandy me get you ship. Him no burn; fire no make him Bonny man tank you enough. You brandy won't burn; too much water live dere: meaning that there was more water than brandy in the puncheons. These satirical remarks were delivered by him in so dry and sarcastic a manner, and with so much gravity of countenance, that the brandy-and-water captain became the laughing-stock of the company, and was so mortified, that he made a precipitate retreat, vowing vengeance against the black cynic for holding him up to ridicule.

"We anchored at this place early in October; when the rains had just commenced, and on landing we were not a little surprised and amused at the grotesque figures which many of the natives made, who had on their heads large wigs, made apparently of the bristles of pigs, not a hair of the bristles of pigs, not a hair of the bristles of pigs, not a hair of the extremity of each stood a dew-drop, for it was a mizzling rain, with now and then a dash of sunshine. At this time the wigs made a very brilliant appearance;

they were of all colours, although red and white were the predominant ones, which, contrasted with the black visages and naked bodies of the wearers, gave them a most ludicrous appearance; they had been purposely made and carried to Majumba on speculations, by a Captain Higgin, of London, an eccentric character.

"During the months of January and February, there occur here what the natives call smokes. from the atmosphere being rendered so extremely thick that objects cannot be seen at the distance of a hundred yards, except when the sun is near the meridian, when it clears away a little. These smokes are accompanied by a moderate north-east wind, which frequently continues six weeks, and produces on plants the same effect as the harmattan, by withering their leaves; and precisely as the blast, or north wind, does on the cotton plant and the other vegetable productions of Guyana. The thermometer generally sinks ten degrees, and the natives feel the change so sensibly, that they wrap their bodies up in cloth very closely, and have fires constantly in their houses. Their skin has at this time a white scurf upon it, and this season is extremely obnoxious to them. The rigging of a vessel acquires hardness, and rattles as if it were frozen, from the peculiar astringency which the air at this time seems to DOSSESS. - - -

"The harmattan wind blows generally once or twice during the months of January and February: it sometimes lasts a fortnight, but more frequently only three or four days. From Cape de Verd to Cape Palmas, the direction

from

from which this wind blows is north-east; but from the latter place to Benin, E.N.E. by compass.

"In one of my passages between the Cape de Verd islands and the continent of Africa, in the month of January, a harmattan commenced, which continued days. The atmosphere, during this period, was so hazy that we could not discern any object fifty yards from the vessel, in any direction. But this haze is not like that which accompanies the easterly wind of Europe, but is more intense; for it is occasioned by an impalpable powder floating in the atmosphere, which, in this instance, adhered to those parts of the sails of the vessel that received the greatest impulse from the wind, and gave them the same colour and appearance as if they had been immersed in a tanpit. The powder, when collected, had an earthy smell, and its colour very much resembled clay."

This powder is thought to be raised by the violent whirlwinds from the north, which traverse the

great Saharra.

"Soon after an earthquake, or seaguake, that occurred at Cabenda, and which extended to some distance to the southward and northward of that port, a flight of locusts took place, that continued three days and three nights, so that the sea was literally covered with their drowned carcases; and the ships' decks, masts, yards, and rigging swarmed with them to such excess, as to require the constant attention of the crews to sweep them overboard. earthquake, which had preceded their flight only a few hours, drove in upon the shore from the

westward several tremendous seas, so as to cause some of the vessels when in the trough of them to strike the ground in five and a half fathoms water. Many of the natives, both here and at Malemba, were drowned upon the beach, in consequence of it being so very narrow, and the cliffs which bound it so extremely precipitous, that they could not escape the overwhelming waves which came suddenly upon them. To this calamity was added the destruction of many canoes, by this sudden inundation of the **sea**; and the locusts destroyed every blade of grass, and all the vegetable productions of the soil, for many miles round.

"An extraordinary flight of small butterflies, or moths, with spotted wings, took place at Annamaboo. After a tornado, the wind veered to the northward, and blew fresh from the land with thick mist, which brought off from the shore so many of these insects, that for one hour the atmosphere was so filled with them, as to represent a snow storm driving past the vessel at a rapid rate, which was lying at anchor about two miles from the shore."

 Journal of a Ten Months' Residence in New Zealand. By Richard A. Cruise, Esq. Captain in the 84th Regiment of Foot. London, 1823.

Captain Cruise has detailed many curious facts with which we were previously unacquainted, and added an entertaining page to the history of these cannibal tribes, who possess so fine a country, and whose habits partake of all that is terrible and hideous in the existence of man.

The Dromedary, after carrying out a cargo of convicts to Botany Bay, sailed to New Zealand, in the hope of obtaining a lading of spars of the kaikaterre, or of the preferable cowry or cowdy tree; represented as being admirably adapted to supply the wants of our navy, and to grow in abundance in these parts. They made a safe passage, and reached, in about ten days, the Bay of Islands, Here, (says Captain C.)—

" Before the ship was brought to, she was surrounded with canoes, full of the friends and relations of the chiefs we had on board. To salute them, as well as to exhibit the riches they had acquired by their visit to Port Jackson, our New Zealanders began firing their musquets without intermission, and, indeed, so prodigal were they of their powder, that one might presume little of it would remain after their landing for the destructive purposes for which they had gone so far to procure it. When their fathers, brothers, &c. were admitted into the ship, the scene exceeded description; the musquets were all laid aside, and every appearance of joy vanished. is customary with these extraordinary people to go through the same ceremony upon meeting as upon taking leave of their friends. They join their noses together, and remain in this position for at least half an hour; during which time they sob and howl in the most doleful manner. If there be many friends gathered around the person who has returned, the nearest relation takes possession of his nose, while the others hang

upon his arms, shoulders, and legs, and keep perfect time with the chief mourner (if he may be so called) in the various expressions of his lamentations. This ended, they resume their wonted cheerfulness, and enter into a detail of all that has happened during their separation."

Soon after the arrival of our countrymen, a warlike expedition of the natives returned from an incursion upon a distant tribe, and much of their character is

exposed on the occasion.

"The fleet was composed of about fifty canoes, many of them seventy or eighty feet long, and few less than sixty. Their prows, sides, and stern-posts were handsomely carved, and ornamented with a profusion of feathers; and they generally carried two sails made of straw matting. They were filled with warriors, who stood up and shouted as they passed our boat, and held up several human heads as trophies of their success.

"The barter of powder and musquets, carried on by the whalers, had already distributed some hundred stand of arms among the inhabitants of this bay; and, as the natives of the river Thames were unprovided with similar weapons, they made little opposition to their more powerful invaders, who, in the present instance, told us they had killed 200, while they returned with the loss of only four men.

"Before we met the canoes we had pretty well learned the result of the expedition from Tooi, who, notwithstanding his long residence in England, and his having returned to New Zealand under the immediate charge of one of the missionaries.

missionaries, still serupulously adhered to the barbarous prejudices of his country, and gave a striking proof of the difficulty of eradicating the habits of savage life in a person of mature age.

" His conversation during breakfast was a continued boast of the atrocities he had committed during an excursion which he and Krokro had made two months before, to the river Thames; and he dwelt with marked pleasure upon an instance of his generalship, when having forced a small party of his enemies into a narrow place, whence there was no egress, he was enabled successively to shoot two-and-twenty of them, without their having the power of making the slightest resistance. To qualify this story, he remarked, that though all the dead bodies were devoured by his tribe. 'neither he nor his brother ate human flesh, nor did they fight on Sundays.' When asked why he did not try to turn the minds of his people to agriculture, he said it was impossible; 'that if you told a New Zealander to work he fell asleep; but if you spoke of fighting, he opened his eyes as wide as a tea-cup; that the whole bent of his mind was war, and that he looked upon fighting as fan.' - - -

"The beach was covered with natives, waiting the return of the expedition; and, as the cances approached, they waded out to meet them, and assisted in hauling them on shore and in landing the prisoners and the baggage.

"The warriors were in their full dress, their hair tied up in a bunch on their heads, and ornamented with white feathers, and their faces and bodies beemcared

with oil and red ochre. They recounted to the groups that surrounded them, the different events of their excursion, with much gesture and energy; while the captives sat patiently upon the beach, awaiting the lot which was to consign them to their respective masters. They consisted of men, women, and children: some of the latter not two years old; and forlorn as their situation was, they seemed to have paid as much attention to the ornamenting of their persons, as those who were placed in more fortunate circumstances.

" Among the women there was one who excited particular interest: she was young and handsome; and though the other prisoners occasionally talked among themselves, she sat silent and alone, and appeared lost in afflic-We learned that her father. who had been a chief of some consequence at the river Thames. was killed by the man whose prisoner she now was; and we observed him sitting at no great distance from her during the greater part of the day. He was the brother of Towi, the principal person at Rangehoo, and was a singularly fine-looking youth. The extraordinary scenes that we witnessed detained us in the neighbourhood of Tippoons until evening; and, as we were preparing to return to the ship, we were drawn to that part of the beach where the prisoners were, by the most doleful cries and lamentations. Here was the interesting young slave in a situation that ought to have softened the heart of the most unfeeling.

"The man who had slain her father, having cut off his head

and

and preserved it by a process peculiar to these islanders, took it out of a basket where it had hitherto been concealed, and threw it into the lap of the unhappy daughter. At once she seized it with a degree of frenzy not to be described, pressed its inanimate nose to her own, and held it in this position until her tears ran over every part of it. She then laid it down, and with a bit of sharp shell disfigured her person in so shocking a manner, that in a few minutes not a vestige of her former beauty remained. first began by cutting her arms, then her breasts, and latterly her face. Every incision was so deep as to cause a gush of blood; but she seemed quite insensible to pain, and performed the operation with heroic resolution.

" He whose cruelty had caused this frightful exhibition, was evidently amused at the horror with which we viewed it; and, laying **h**old of the head by the hair, which was long and black, offered to sell it to us for an axe, turned it in various ways to show it off to the best advantage, and, when no purchaser was to be found, replaced it in the basket from whence he had taken it. The features were as perfect as when in life, and though the daughter was quite grown up, the head of her father appeared to be that of a youthful and handsome man."

This touching example of filial piety, we learn, afterwards — married her father's murderer. But what are we to expect from these ruthless savages? What follows will tell.

"We were visited by many of the neighbouring chiefs, and, among others, by Perehico, the man to whom we had brought the news of the death of his child at Port Jackson, and, as he had lost the use of his limbs, he was hoisted up in the chair. A fine little child, the son of a British sailor by a native woman \*, was observed in a canoe alongside, and its mother consented, after some hesitation, to permit it to come on board. She seemed very fond of it, and was quite uneasy during its absence from her-It was nearly naked, but as fair as if it had been born in England; and it naturally excited so much interest in the ship, that it was returned to its parent with a very comfortable supply of clothing several days' provisions. One of the men who had been employed in cutting food for the bullocks, reported that, curiosity having led him to lift up a mat which he saw spread upon the ground near King George's village, he discovered underneath it the body of a recently murdered child, with the entrails taken out, as if preparatory to its being devoured. The story was so shocking, and almost incredible, particularly as the New Zealanders are very fond of their children, that no belief was attached to it, until it was corroborated by the testimony of some of the other men

who were with him. - - "One of the officers of the ship having visited the missionaries' settlement at Tippoona, was presented with a human bone, curiously carved. The person

Captain C. was induced to believe that the generality of this class were caten, which accounted for so few being seen.

who gave it to him, assured him that he had purchased it from a chief of Wangarooa, who had set a high value upon it, from the circumstance of its being the rib of one of the crew of the Boyd. - - -

"During the stay of the gentlemen of the Dromedary at the Bay of Islands, two cookees, belonging to a chief of the Rangehoo tribe, were killed for some alleged crime. The body of one was thrown into the sea, while that of the other, after having lain buried one day, was taken up and devoured.

" The gentlemen happening to pass through the village of Rangehoo at the time of this cannibal feast, observed the natives particularly active in throwing their mats over some object round which they were sitting, when they saw the strangers approach. The gentlemen, of course, continued their walk without appearing to notice what they had seen; but a sailor belonging to the Catherine, who followed at some distance, and in whom the natives probably thought that the horrible spectacle would excite less disgust than in their superiors, was not only an eye-witness of their eating the body, but was invited to partake of the repast."

But the climax of this disgusting practice is yet to come.

"Though well aware (Captain C. assures us) of our abhorrence of cannibalism, they never denied it to be one of their customs; on the contrary, they too often expressed their predilection for human flesh. The limbs only of a man are eatable, while, with the exception of the head, the whole body of a female or a child is considered delicious.

"Besides the crew of the Boyd, other Europeans have from time to time fallen victims to their ferocity: but they describe the flesh of a white man as tough and unpalatable when compared to that of their own countrymen, and they attribute its inferiority to our universal practice of using salt with our food.

"It is from superstitious motives that they devour their enemies when slain in battle: but there is every reason to conclude that anthropophagy is practised on other occasions.

"Instances occurred during our residence among them, and under the eyes of Europeans, of female slaves having been murdered for crimes too trifling to justify such severity; and as their bodies were immediately cut up, washed, and removed to a place where they could be eaten without interruption, and as the intended feast was publicly mentioned by the natives themselves, it is to be presumed the horrid propensity was gratified."

"--- To the inexpressible astonishment of the islanders, two whales that came into the Bay of Islands, were attacked by the boats of the whale ships, and killed. After the blubber had been cut off, the carcase floated on shore.

"The flesh of the whale being considered by these people a first-rate delicacy, they gathered from every corner of the bay to feed upon it. Innumerable quarrels took place upon the back of the fish, and even the native girls, who lived as servants to the missionaries, and were fed as well as their masters, either abandoned their employment to take their

station

station at the carcase of the whale, or insisted that some of it should be purchased for their consumption."

Yet " The New Zealand women are as fair as those of the southern parts of Europe, wellmade, and, in general, handsome. Before matrimony, concubinage is scarcely considered a crime, nor is it an impediment to the highest connexion; after it, they are. faithful and affectionate wives. and very fond of their children. They bear with the greatest patience the violent conduct of their husbands, who, considering women as beings infinitely inferior to themselves, often treat them with great brutality."

Other points of their character

are thus described:

" It would be difficult to define what their religion is. have innumerable superstitions, but no idolatry. They believe that the chiefs when they die go. to a very happy place, but that the Cookee has no further existence beyond this world. They address prayers to the sun, to the moon, to the stars, and even to the winds, when their canoes are becalmed or in a storm; but their pravers emanate from casual circumstances, not from any regular form or time of adoration. Thev believe in a Supreme Being, designated the Atua, or something incomprehensible; the author of good and evil; the divinity who protects them in danger, or destroys them by disease. A man who has arrived at a certain stage of an incurable illness, is under the influence of the Atua; who has taken possession of him, and who, in the shape of a lizard, is devouring his intestines; after 1823.

which no human assistance or comfort can be given to the sufferer, and he is carried out of the village, and left to die. He who has had his hair cut is in the immediate charge of the Atua; he is removed from the contact and society of his family and his tribe; he dare not touch his food himself; it is put into his mouth by another person; nor can he for some days resume his accustomed occupations, or associate with his fellow-men. An elderly female, or kind of priestess, of the tribe of any warrior, who is going to fight, abstains from food. for two days; and on the third, when purified and influenced by the Atua, after various ceremonies, pronounces an incantation for the success and safety of him whom. she is about to send forth to bat-But the attributes of the Atua are so vague, and his power and protection so undefined, and there is moreover such a want of unanimity among the people themselves in many things relating to him, that it is quite impossible to discover any thing like system in their theology.

"Their general food is the koomera, or sweet potatoe; the root of the fern, roasted and pounded; the indigenous taro. which is very sweet; the common potatoe; the cabbage plant; and fish, which they take in great abundance. They dry their fish in the sun without salt, and it: continues good for many months. They use an immense quantity of cockles; and though they sometimes eat pork, it is only on great occasions: they generally reserve it to barter with the Europeans. The pigs run wild in the woods, and are caught with much difficul-

K t

ty and with the assistance of dogs, which themselves are sometimes eaten, and are considered a great delicacy. Dogs and rats are the only native quadrupeds of the island; the former are like our fox in shape, but variable in the colour; and the latter are so much smaller than the European rat, that a chief expressed a wish for an importation of some from England to improve the breed, and thereby give him a more bountiful meal. The taro plant, which has been imported from Otaheite, is cultivated by a few natives with much success. - Their appetites are immense; and all their food is cooked in one and the same manner, namely, in hot stones covered over with leaves and earth, so as to form a kind of oven; and, certainly, their vegetables and cockles are particularly good when dressed in this way. They were very fond of our biscuit; and though it was literally so full of vermin that mone of us could eat it, the tribes in the neighbourhood of the ship very eagerly bartered for it their potatoes and the other esculent plants introduced into the island by Captain Cook. Reckless, however, of the future, they had soon disposed of their little stock, and they afterwards lived in comparative misery."

"The belief in the reappearance of the dead is universal among the New Zealanders: they fancy they hear their deceased relatives speaking to them, when the wind is high; whenever they pass the place where a man has been murdered, it is customary for each person to throw a stone upon it; and the same practice is observed by all those who visit

a cavern at the North Cape, through which the spirits of departed men are supposed to pass on their way to a future world.

"In alluding to their superstitions, it may not be irrelevant to observe, that they ascribe the most fatal consequences to the act of eating in their houses.

"A daughter of King George being very ill, food was occasionally carried to her from the ship; and her parents were urged on no account to permit her to expose herself to the open air; but the injunction could not be complied with; and in the most inclement weather she was obliged to abandon her hut whenever she had occasion to eat.

"Consequences no less calamitous are supposed to await those who enter a house where any article of animal food is suspended over their heads. A dead pigeon, or a piece of pork hung from the roof, was a better protection from molestation than a sentinel; and latterly this practice has been followed by our people who lived on shore, with great success, whenever they wished to be free from the intrasion of the natives."

"The custom of preserving heads is universal among these islanders. They bring them back from their wars, in the first instance, as a trophy; and, in the event of peace, to restore them to the party from whom they had taken them: an interchange of heads being a common article in their treaties of reconciliation. They now barter them to the Buropeans for a trifle."

Our grumblers might wish to suggest this kind of ceremony, instead of the gift of diamond

smuff-

smaff-boxes to pacificating ambassadors. In one instance, an invading tribe, headed by one Poro, brought to another chief, Teperee, his brother's head, which had been kept by Poro since he slew him in battle: it was restored to his father and family, to show that Poro did not come hostilely.

" In visiting the missionary settlement at Tippoona, we learned that a very shocking murder had been committed there during our absence at Shukehanga. female slave belonging to one of the chiefs, whom he had ill-treated, was said, in the bitterness of. her heart, to have cursed him, a crime in that race never forgiven ; and, as she was standing on the beach opposite to the settlers' houses, he walked up to her, and with one blow of his mearee (or club) laid her dead at his feet. There is a pool of fresh water close to the house of Mr. King, a missionary, to which the body was immediately carried. entrails were taken out, it was divided into quarters, and washed perfectly clean. The chief then threw it into a canoe, and, with some of his tribe, crossed over to a neighbouring island to devour This horrid act was perpetrated in the presence of some of the missionaries."

The Shukebanga here alluded to, had not been before visited by Europeans. A priest of this part of the country affords a tolerable sample of the native character.

"The day after we arrived, one of the natives whom we had brought round from the Bay of Islands announced his intention of leaving us. This man called himself the priest and the pilot of

Shukehanga, and was supposed by his tribs to have power over the winds and the waves; an influence which, when he was saked to exert during the late gale, he declined, by saying, that 'he could not do so in the Dromedary; but that if he were in his over the declined of the storm

would instantly abate.'

" During his stay in the ship there certainly was nothing of a very sacred character about him; he was by far the wildest of his companions; and, unfortunately, on the morning fixed for his departure, a soldier having missed his jacket, there was so great # suspicion of the pilot's honesty, that the sentinel at the gangway took the liberty of lifting up his mat, as he prepared to go down the side, and discovered the stolen The jacket property under it. was of course taken from him; and as the only excuse he had to offer for his misconduct was, that he had lost a shirt that had been given to him, and that he considered himself authorised to get remuneration in any way he could, he was dismissed without those presents which were given to the others."

One of the chiefs adopted a novel fashion of measuring the ship.

"He was in his war cance, paddled by thirty men, and attended by another cance, carrying nearly the same number of his tribe. He alone came up the side; and, after gazing about for some time, proceeded to measure the ship from stem to stern. This he effected by prostrating himself upon the deck, and marking upon it the distance between his feet and the extreme ends of

his hands, which he extended as far beyond his head as he could, counting at the same time the number of prostrations he had made. When he had got the length, he ascertained in the same way the breadth of the vessel, and announced it from the poop to his astonished followers, who sat in their canoes, and patiently waited the return of their chief."

Tattooing, our author had an opportunity of seeing performed on a young native: the operation is styled the umoco,\* and is

thus described:

" He lay upon his back, with his head resting upon the knees of the operator, who sat upon the ground, and for whose guidance the intended form of the amoco had been previously traced in black lines upon the patient's face. The point of the tattooing chisel was about half a quarter of an inch wide: it was made of the wingbone of an albatross, and fastened in a transverse wooden handle. Before each incision the instrument was dipped in a calabash of charcoal and water, and then laid on the part, and lightly struck with a bit of stick not larger than a common pencil. As the lines of the amoco became more contracted, a narrower instrument was used. Though the blood gushed out at every puncture, the patient bore the operation with perfect composure; and whatever the pain might have been at the time, the inflammation that followed and continued for many days was quite frightful."

"The New Zealanders exhibit

as much variety in features as the Europeans; there is little national character in their countenances, which, before they come to the age for being tattooed, may be called regular and pleasing; at least, several of them whom we saw before they had undergone that operation were very hand-The lines of the tattooing vary in the different tribes; and, when an individual attains his twentieth year, he is considered unmanly, if he has not endured part of this painful process. bears it with surprising fortitude; and it is renewed occasionally, as the lines become fainter by time, to the latest period of his life. Jetoro, who returned to New Zealand in the Dromedary, was re-tattooed soon after his arrival: and when Wheety, who was half Anglicised by a long residence amongst us, was told that he ought not to adopt this frightful custom of his countrymen, he said, 'if he did not, he should be despised, and perhaps taken for a The inflammation that follows the tattooing is so very great that it is on all occasions performed; — many gradually months, and sometimes years, elapse before the face is completely finished; and though the process disfigures the natives in their youth, it completely conceals the ravages of age."

When the Dromedary struck on a rock, a native described the ship as "lying down, and very sick;" and the murderer George, "when passing by the wreck of the Boyd with some of the officers

<sup>&</sup>quot;" Some peculiarity in the figure of the amoco distinguishes the members of every tribe; and a gentleman of the Dromedary, who had a coat of arms engraved upon his seal, was often asked if it was the amoco of his tribe."

of the Dromedary, pointed at it, and remarked to them in his broken English, 'That's my ship;' 'she is very sorry;' 'she is crying;' but in no instance did he express any compunction for the horrible crime of which he had been guilty."

That such savages, from the chiefs to the lowest of the tribe, surrendered their women to the sailors indiscriminately, is not surprising. We can only allude to one rather pathetic instance of the consequences of this practice. A soldier, in a drunken quarrel, mortally wounded a seaman named Aldridge. A native girl, the daughter of a chief, had lived for some months with the former; " and it appearing prudent to remove her from the ship, she complied with the order for her departure with much reluctance. From the time the unfortunate man had been put in confinement till the present moment, she had scarcely left his side or ceased to cry; and having been told that he must inevitably be hanged, she purchased some flax from the natives alongside, and, making a rope of it, declared that if such should be his fate, she would put a similar termination to her own existence; nor is there the slightest doubt that, in conformity to the customs of her country, she would have executed her inten-

" Though turned out of the ship, she remained alongside in a canoe from sunrise to sunset, and no remonstrances or presents could induce her to go away. When the Dromedary went to the Bay of Islands, she followed us overland, and again taking up her station near that part of the ves-

sel in which she supposed her protector was imprisoned, she remained there even in the most desperate weather, and resumed her daily lamentation for his anticipated fate until we finally sailed from New Zealand."

20. Account of an Expedition from Pittsburgh to the Rocky Mountains, performed in the years 1819, 1820. By Order of the Hon. J. C. Calhoun, Secretary of War, &c. under the Command of Major S. H. Long. By Edwin James, Botanist and Geologist to the Party. London, 1823.

The Expedition, consisting of Major Long, of the Engineers; Major Biddle, literary Journalist: Dr. Baldwin, Botanist (who died soon after setting out); Mr. Say, Zoologist; Jessup, Geologist; Peale, assistant Naturalist; Seymour, Painter; Lieutenant Graham and Cadet Smith, the Author, &c., with a boat's crew and military force, on board a steam-boat, sailed from Pittsburgh on the 5th of May, 1819.

"In the afternoon (they were between Franklin and Fort Osage, the extremity of the settlements) they halted to rest at the cabin of a hunter on Fire Prairie Creek. so called from the circumstance of three or four Indians having been burned to death by the sudden conflagration of the dry grass in the meadows at its source. Mr. Say had an opportunity to examine a young black wolf, which was confined by a chain at the door of the hut. These animals are common in this part of the country. This individual was one of five that had been taken

from

from the same den. It had become familiar with the hunter and his family, but was shy towards strangers. When fed on meat, the ferocity of his disposition manifested itself in attempts to bite the children. It was ordinarily fed on bread and milk.

"This man had been settled here two years, but had not 'made a crop," having subsisted himself and his family by hunting, wherein he had been very successful. the preceding autumn he had killed seventy deer and fifty bears. He took great pleasure in relating his hunting adventures, particularly his engagements with bears. One bear which he had killed, he said, weighed seven hundred pounds; but in this instance he was probably mistaken. He had seen in the winter of 1818, a large herd of bisons near the Grand Pass; but they had been driven down by the severity of the weather, and were not ordinarily to be found within the limits of his hunting excursions. During the severe wintry weather, he affirmed that bears make for themselves a shelter of brushwood, into which they creep to secure themselves from the cold.

"From May until July the female of the common deer conceals her young whilst she goes to feed. It is at this time that the hunters take advantage of the maternal feelings of the animal to secure their prey. They conceal themselves and imitate the cry of the fawn. The solicitude of the parent animal for her young overcomes her usual care for her own safety; and believing she hears the cries of her offspring in distress, she hurries toward the spot

where the hunter lies concealed, and falls an easy prey."

From Fort Osage, August 6, a party under Mr. Say was despatched to explore the country towards the Konzas river, and between that river and the Platte. while the steam-boat soon after pursued its upward course in the Missouri. A hundred and sixtyone Indians, including chiefs and warriors and thirteen Osages, came to hold a council with the Americans. Here they were threatened by their encroaching neighbours. but no immediate consequence ensued. On the return of Mr. Say's party, he gave an account of his journey to the Konza village.

"' The approach to the village is over a fine level prairie of considerable extent; passing which, you ascend an abrupt bank of the height of ten feet to a second level, on which the village is situate in the distance, within about onefourth of a mile of the river. consists of about a hundred and twenty lodges, placed as closely together as convenient, and destitute of any regularity of arrangement. The ground area of each lodge is circular, and is excavated to the depth of from one to three feet, and the general form of the exterior may be denominated hemispheric. - - A hole is permitted to remain in the middle of the roof, to give exit to the smoke. - - - Several medicine or mystic bags are carefully attached to the mats of the wall; these are cylindrical, and neatly bound up; several reeds are usually placed upon them, and a human scalp serves for their fringe and tassels. Of their contents we know nothing. - - -

" Corega-wa-ten-nings, or the Fool Chief, is the hereditary principal chief; but he possesses nothing like monarchical authority, maintaining his distinction only by his bravery and good conduct. There are ten or twelve inferior chieftains, or persons who aspire to such dignity; but these do not appear to command any great respect from the people. well as military distinction arises from bravery or generosity. Controversies are decided amongst themselves; they do not appeal to their chief, excepting for coun-They will not marry any of their kindred, however remote. The females, before marriage, labour in the fields, and serve their parents, carry wood and water, and attend to the culinary duties; when the eldest daughter marries, she commands the lodge, the mother, and all the sisters: the latter are to be also the wives of the same individual.

" ' After the death of the husband the widow sacrifices herself. rubs her person with clay, and becomes negligent of her dress, until the expiration of a year, when the eldest brother of the deceased takes her to wife without any ceremony, considers her children as his own, and takes her and them to his house: if the deceased left no brother, she marries whom she picases. They have, in some instances, four or five wives; but these are mostly sisters: if they marry into two families, the wives do not harmonise well together, and give the husband much inquietude: there is, however, no restriction in this respect, except in the prudence of the husband.

A Council was held with the Otoes, Ieways, and other tribes.

"The principal chiefs advanced before their people, and upon invitation seated themselves. After a short interval of silence, Shongatonga, the Big Horse, a large portly Indian of a commanding presence, arose and said, 'My father, your children have come to dance before your tent, agreeably to our custom of honouring brave or distinguished persons.'

"After a suitable reply, by Major O'Fallon, the amusement of dancing was commenced by the striking up of their rude instrumental and vocal music; the former consisting of a gong made of a large keg, over one of the ends of which a skin was stretched, which was struck by a small stick; and another instrument, consisting of a stick of firm wood, notched like a saw, over the teeth of which a smaller stick was rubbed forcibly backward and forward: with these, rude as they were, very good time was preserved with the vocal performers who sat around them, and by all the natives as they sat, in the inflection of their bodies, or the movements of their limbs. the lapse of a little time, three individuals leaped up and danced around for a few minutes; then, at a concerted signal from the master of the ceremonies, the music ceased, and they retired to their seats uttering a loud noise, which, by patting the mouth rapidly with the hand, was broken into a succession of similar sounds, somewhat like the hurried barking of a dog. Several sets of dancers succeeded, each terminating as the first. In the intervals of the dances, a warrior would step forward and strike a flag-staff they had erected with a stick, whip, or other

other weapon, and recount his martial deeds. This ceremony is called striking the post, and whatever is then said may be relied upon as rigid truth, being delivered in the presence of many a jealous warrior and witness, who could easily detect and would immediately diagrace the striker for exaggeration or falsehood. is called the beggars' dance, during which some presents are always expected by the performers, as tobacco, whisky, or trinkets. But on this occasion, as none of those articles were immediately offered, the amusement was not at first distinguished by much acti-The master of the ceremonies continually called aloud to them to exert themselves; but still they were somewhat dull and backward. Ietan now stepped forward and lashed a post with his whip, declaring that he would thus punish those who did not dance: this threat, from one whom they had vested with authority for this occasion, had a manifest effect upon his auditors, who were presently highly wrought up by the sight of two or three little mounds of tobacco-twist which were now laid before them, and appeared to infuse new life.

"After lashing the post and making his threat, Ietan went on to narrate his martial exploits. He had stolen horses seven or eight times from the Konzas; he had first struck the bodies of three of that nation slain in battle. He had stolen horses from the Ietan nation, and had struck one of their dead. He had stolen horses from the Pawnees, and struck the body of one Pawnee Loup. He had stolen horses several times from the Omawhaws, and once

from the Puncas. He had struck the bodies of two Sioux. On a war party, in company with the Pawnees, he had attacked the Spaniards and penetrated into one of their camps; the Spaniards, excepting a man and boy, fled; himself being at a distance before his party, he was shot at and missed by the man, whom he immediately shot down and struck. 'This, my father,' said he, 'is the only martial act of my life that I am ashamed of.' After several rounds of dancing, and of striking at the post by the warriors, Mi-ake-ta, or the Little Soldier, a warworn veteran, took his turn to strike the post. He leaped actively about, and strained his voice to its utmost pitch whilst he pourtrayed some of the scenes of blood in which he had acted. had struck dead bodies of individuals of all the red nations around. Osages, Konzas, Pawnee Loups, Pawnee Republicans, Grand Pawnees, Puncas, Omawhaws, and Sioux, Padoucas, La Plais or Bald Heads, Ietans, Sauks, Foxes, and Ioways; he had struck eight of one nation, seven of another, &c. He was proceeding with his account when Ietan ran up to him, put his hand upon his mouth, and respectfully led him to his seat. This act was no trifling compliment paid to the well-known brave. It indicated that he had still so many glorious acts to speak of, that he would occupy so much time as to prevent others from speaking, and put to shame the other warriors by the contrast of his actions with theirs."

Their dances, sometimes, are sorts of pantomimes of their exploits. Thus, for instance:

"Wa-sa-ba-jing-ga, or Little

Black Bear, after a variety of gestures, threw several arrows in succession over his head, thereby indicating his familiarity with the flight of such missiles: he at the same time covered his eyes with his hand, to indicate that he was blind to danger. Others represented their manœuvres in battle, seeking their enemy, discharging at him their guns or arrows, &c."

Major Long and others, leaving their friends settled for the winter, returned to Philadelphia. The Pawnee tribes, having been summoned to answer for their offences, came to the rendezvous.

"In the evening (the author says), accompanied by several gentlemen of the party, we visited the camp of the Pawnees, whom we found sitting round their fires, smoking their pipes in silence. Some were employed in making bows, having found plenty of hickory, and hop horn beam wood here, which are not to be procured in the vicinity of their villages. Their mules were tied to trees, feeding on the bark of the cotton The three tribes were wood. seated around different fires. We sat down in the group of Grand Pawnees, and smoked with their chief, Tar-ra-re-ca-wa-o, or Long Hair. This is an hereditary chief. of a lofty and rather haughty mien; his mouth is, perhaps through habit, drawn down a little at the corners. He has the appearance and character of an intrepid man, although not distinguished as a warrior, having, during his life, killed but a single man, who was a Spaniard. is, however, artful and politic, and has performed some laudable ac-The following anecdote tions. may serve in part to illustrate the

more amiable traits of his charac-Dorion, a Mestizo, on a trading expedition, had accumulated a considerable quantity of peltry at the Pawnee republican village, when it was situated on the Republican fork of the Konza river. As he had no horses to transport his merchandize, he requested the chief of that village to assist him in conveying it to the Grand Pawnees on the Platte, as he intended to descend that river to trade with the Otoes, on his way to St. Louis; the chief directly ordered horses to be brought, the furs were packed upon them, and they departed on the journey: but owing to some alleged misconduct on the part of Dorion, the chief, when half way, ordered the goods to be taken from the horses and to be left on the plain. He then, with his followers, returned to his village. The trader, after bewailing his unfortunate condition, at length resolved to go to the Grand Pawnee village and solicit the aid of Long Hair. Having arrived at the residence of the chief, he related to him in what manner he had been used by the Republican chief, and concluded by requesting assistance to bring in his goods. Long Hair, without reply, ascended to the top of his lodge, and called out to his people to bring him one hundred horses. Taking the best of these, and a sufficient number of attendants. he accompanied Dorion, and assisted him to transport all his peltries, and did not cease with his good offices until he had aided him in building a skin canoe, and had packed all the merchandize aboard, although previously told by Dorion that he had nothing to reward him with, having, as he said.

said, traded every thing away, though at the same moment he had a number of Indian goods concealed in his packs of buffalo robes. After all was completed, ' Now,' said the chief, ' Dorion, I know you are a bad man; I have no doubt but you have a quantity of such goods as we want, concealed in those packs, and could reward me if you were liberal enough; but I ask nothing: you have a forked tongue. You have abused me to the whites, by calling me a rascal, saying I robbed the traders, &c.; but go, I will not harm you; tell the Red Head (Governor Clarke) that I am a rascal, robber, &c. I am content.'

"At another fire, surrounded by his particular band, sat the Knife Chief, La-che-le-cha-ru, principal chief of the Pawneemahas. He is a large portly man, with a very prepossessing countenance; the hair on the sides of his head is grey; he has a deep scar on the right side, from a wound which was inflicted by a female prisoner, of the Padouca nation, whom he had adopted and taken into his family. squaw, becoming infuriated at the prospect of the state of slavery to which she supposed herself now reduced, stabbed her child to the heart, mortally wounded the brother of this chief, and before she could be dispatched, had inflicted this wound, through which the The indivibowels protruded. duals of this band live in great harmony amongst themselves, owing probably to their having but two chiefs, who are unrival-The second chief is a Mesled. tizo."

"On the following day the Pawnees were summoned to coun-

cil, and in a short time they appeared marching leisurely in a narrow pathway, in Indian file. led by the grand chief; near this pathway the musical band was stationed, and when Long Hair arrived opposite, they struck up, suddenly and loudly, a martial air. We wished to observe the effect which instruments, that he had never seen or heard before, would produce on this distinguished man. and therefore eyed him closely; and were not disappointed to observe that he did not deign to look upon them, or to manifest, by any motion whatever, that he was sensible of their presence. Indiana arranged themselves on the benches prepared for them. and the cessation of the music was succeeded by stillness, which was suddenly interrupted by loud explosions from our howitzers, that startled many of us, but did not appear to attract the notice of the Pawnees."

"The wonderful intelligence of this animal (the prairie wolf) is well worthy of note, and a few anecdotes respecting it may not be Mr. Peale constructed and tried various kinds of traps to take them, one of which was of the description called 'a live trap; a shallow box reversed, and supported at one end by the wellknown kind of trap of sticks, usually called the 'figure four,' which elevated the front of the trap upwards of three feet above its alab flooring; the trap was about six feet long, and nearly the same in breadth, and was plentifully baited Notwithstanding this with offal. arrangement, a wolf actually burrowed under the flooring, and pulled down the bait through the crevices of the floor. Tracks of different

different sizes were observed about the trap. This procedure would seem to be the result of a faculty

beyond mere instinct.

"This trap proving useless, another was constructed in a different part of the country, formed like a large cage, but with a small entrance on the top, through which the animals might enter but not return: this was equally unsuccessful; the wolves attempted in vain to get at the bait, as they would not enter by the route

prepared for them.

"A large double 'steel trap' was next tried: this was profusely baited, and the whole, with the exception of the bait, was carefully concealed beneath the fallen leaves. This was also unsuccess-Tracks of the anticipated victims were next day observed to be impressed in numbers on the earth near the spot; but still the trap, with its seductive charge, remained untouched. The bait was then removed from the trap, and suspended over it from the branch of a tree; several pieces of meat were also suspended in a similar manner, from trees in the vicinity: the following morning the bait over the trap alone remained. Supposing that their exquisite sense of smell warned them of the position of the trap, it was removed, and again covered with leaves; and the baits being disposed as before, the leaves to a considerable distance around were burned, and the trap remained perfectly concealed by ashes; still the bait over the trap was avoided. Once only this trap was sprung, and had fastened for a short time upon the foot of a species, which was shot the following day at no great distance; it

proved to be a species distinct from the prairie wolf."

In a description of the Omawhaw Indians, there are some curious and interesting details.

When they reach the Bison country and find their game, "the hunters, after making the signal for bisons, to induce the people to halt and encamp, return as expeditiously as possible, and on their approach are received with some ceremony. The chiefs and magi are seated in front of their people, puffing smoke from their pipes, and thanking the Master of life, with such expressions as 'How-wa-con-da,' 'Thanks, Master of life.'- 'Hownin-e-shet-ta-wa-con - da - a - mahpan-ne-nah-pa-e-wa - rat - a -cumba-ra.'—' Thank you, Master of life, here is smoke; I am poor, hungry, and want to eat.' hunters draw near to the chiefs and magi, and in a low tone of voice inform them of the discovery of bisons. They are questioned as to the number, and reply by holding up to the view some small sticks in an horizontal position, and compare one herd at a stated distance with this stick, and another with that, &c.

" It is then the business of some old man or crier to harangue the people, informing them of the discovery, requesting the squaws to keep in good heart, telling them they have endured many hardships with fortitude, that there is now a termination to their difficulties for the present, and that on the morrow the men will go in pursuit of the bisons, and without doubt bring them plenty of meat.

"On all occasions of public rejoicings, festivals, dances, or general hunts, a certain number of re-

solute warriors are previously appointed to preserve order and keep the peace. In token of their office they paint themselves entirely black; usually wear the crow, and arm themselves with a whip or war-club, with which they punish on the spot those who misbehave, and are at once both judges and executioners. Thus, at the bison hunts, they knock down or flog those whose manœuvres tend to frighten the game, before all are ready, or previously to their having arrived at the proper point, from which to sally forth upon them.

"Four or five such officers, or soldiers, are appointed at a council of the chiefs, held in the evening, to preserve order amongst the hunters for the succeeding day.

"On the following morning, all the men, excepting the superannuated, depart early in pursuit of the favourite game. They are generally mounted, armed with bows and arrows. The soldiers of the day accompany the rapidly moving cavalcade on foot, armed with war-clubs, and the whole are preceded by a footman bearing a pipe.

"On coming in sight of the herd, the hunters talk kindly to their horses, applying to them the endearing names of father, brother, uncle, &c.; they petition them not to fear the bisons, but to run well, and keep close to them, but at the same time to avoid being gored.

"The party having approached as near to the herd as they suppose the animals will permit, without taking alarm, they halt, to give the pipe-bearer an opportunity to perform the ceremony of smoking, which is considered necessary to their success. He

lights his pipe, and remains a short time with his head inclined. and the stem of the pipe extended towards the herd. He then smokes, and puffs the smoke towards the bisons, towards heavens and the earth, and finally to the cardinal points successively. These last they distinguish by the terms sunrise, sunset, cold country, and warm country; or they designate them collectively, by the phrase of the four winds, Ta-da-sa-ga-to-ba.

"The ceremony of smoking being performed, the word of starting is given by Ongpatonga. They immediately separate into two bands, who pass in full speed to the right and left, and perform a considerable circuit, with the object of enclosing the herd, at a considerable interval, between them.

"They then close in upon the animals, and each man endeavours to kill as many of them as his opportunity permits.

" It is upon this occasion that the Indians display their horsemanship, and dexterity in archery. Whilst in full run, they discharge the arrow with an aim of much certainty, so that it penetrates the body of the animal behind the shoulder. If it should not bury itself so deeply as they wish, they are often known to ride up to the enraged animal and withdraw it. They observe the direction and depth to which the arrow enters. in order to ascertain whether or not the wound is mortal, of which they can judge with a considerable degree of exactness. When a death-wound is inflicted, the hunter raises a shout of exultation, to prevent others from pursuing the individual of which he consi-

dera

ders himself certain. He then passes in pursuit of another, and so on, until his quiver is exhausted, or the game has passed beyond

his further pursuit.

"The force of the arrow, when discharged by a dexterous and athletic Indian, is very great; and we were even credibly informed, that, under favourable circumstances, it has been known to pass entirely through the body of a bison, and actually to fly some distance, or fall to the ground on the opposite side of the animal.

"Notwithstanding the apparent confusion of this engagement, and that the same animal is sometimes feathered by arrows from different archers, before he is dispatched, or considered mortally wounded, yet as each man knows his own arrows from all others, and can also estimate the nature of the wound, whether it would produce a speedy death to the animal, quarrels respecting the right of property in the prev seldom occur, and it is consigned to the more fortunate individual, whose weapon penetrated the most vital

"The chase having terminated, each Indian can trace back his devious route to the starting-place, so as to recover any small article

he may have lost.

"This surrounding chase the Omawhaws distinguish by the

name of Ta-wan-a-sa.

"A fleet horse well trained to the hunt, runs at the proper distance, with the reins thrown upon his neck, parallel with the bison, turns as he turns, and does not cease to exert his speed until the shoulder of the animal is presented, and the fatal arrow is implanted there. He then complies with the motion of his rider, who leans to one side, in order to direct his course to another bison. Such horses as these are reserved by their owners exclusively for the chase, and are but rarely subjected to the drudgery of carrying burdens.

"When the herd has escaped, and those that are only wounded or disabled are secured, the hunters proceed to flay and cut up the slain."

This meat is carried back to their village about August—the huts reoccupied, the buried goods dug up, the weeds destroyed, the maize crop gathered in, and they settle for the winter.

"The Indians, like the Hottentots, Negroes, and monkeys, eat the lice which they detect in each other's heads. The squaws search for these parasites; and we have often seen them thus occupied with activity, earnestness, and much success. One of them, who was engaged in combing the head of a white man, was asked why she did not eat the vermin: she replied, that white men's lice are not good."

"Annually, in the month of July, the Minnetarees celebrate their great medicine dance, or dance of penitence, which may well be compared with the Currack-pooja of the expiatory tortures of the Hindoos, so often celebrated at Calcutta. On this occasion a considerable quantity of food is prepared, which is well cooked, and served up in their best manner. The devotees then dance and sing to their music at intervals, for three or four days together in full view of the victuals, without attempting to taste of them. But they do not, even at this time, forego their accushospitality; and if a stranger enters, he is invited to eat, though no one partakes with him. On the third or fourth day. the severer expiatory tortures commence, to which the preceding ceremonies were but preludes. An individual presents himself before one of the officiating magi, crying and lamenting, and requests him to cut a fillet of skin from his arm, which he extends for that The devout operator purpose. thrusts a sharp instrument through the skin near the wrist, then introduces the knife, and cuts out a piece of the required length, sometimes extending the excision entirely to the shoulder. Another will request bands of skin to be cut from his arm. A third will have his breast flayed, so as to represent a full moon or crescent. A fourth submits to the removal of concentric arcs of skin from his breast. A fifth prays the operator to remove small pieces of skin from various indicated parts of his body: for this purpose an iron bodkin is thrust through the skin, and the piece is cut off, by passing the knife under the instru-

"Various are the forms of suffering which they inflict upon themselves. An individual requests the operator to pierce a hole through the skin of each of his shoulders, and after passing a long cord through each of these holes, he repairs to a Golgotha at some distance from the village, and selects one of the bison skulls collected there. To the chosen granium he affixes the ends of his cords, and drags it in this painful manner to the lodge, round

which he must go with his burden, before he can be released from it. No one is permitted to assist him, neither dares he to put his own hands to the cords, to alleviate his sufferings. If it should so happen that the horns of the cranium get booked under a root or other obstacle, he must extricate it in the best manner he can, by pulling different ways, but he must not touch the rope or the head with his hands, or in any respect attempt to relieve the painful strain upon his wounds, until his complete task is performed.

"Some of the penitents have arrows thrust through various muscular parts of their bodies, as through the skin and superficial muscles of the arm, leg, breast, and back.

"A devotee caused two stout arrows to be passed through the muscles of his breast, one on each side, near the mammæ. these arrows cords were attached, the opposite ends of which were affixed to the upper part of a post, which had been firmly implanted in the earth for the purpose. He then threw himself backward, into an oblique position, his back within about two feet of the soil, so as to depend with the greater portion of his weight by the cords. In this situation of excruciating agony, he continued to chaunt and to keep time to the music of the gong, until, from long abstinence and suffering, he fainted. The bystanders then cried out, 'Courage, courage,' with much shouting and After a short interval of insensibility he revived, and proceeded with his self-inflicted tortures as before, until nature being completely exhausted, he again relapsed into insensibility; upon which

which he was loosed from the cords, and carried off amidst the acclamations of the whole assembly.

" Another Minnetaree, in compliance with a vow he had made, caused a hole to be perforated of each through the muscles shoulder; through these holes cords were passed, which were, at the opposite ends, attached by way of a bridle to a horse, that had been penned up three or four days without food or water. In this manner he led the horse to the margin of the river. The horse, of course, endeavoured to drink; but it was the province of the Indian to prevent him, and that only by straining at the cords with the muscles of the shoulder, without resorting to the assistance of his hands. And notwithstanding all the exertions of the horse to drink, his master succeeded in preventing him, and returned with him to his lodge, having accomplished his painful task.

"The Wolf chief, one of the most eminent of the warriors of the upper village of the Minnetarees, on one occasion, sat five days singing and lamenting without food, on a small insulated and naked rock in the Missouri river. And it is firmly believed that he did not even palliate his urgent wants by tasting the water during

this long probation.

"The power of some of the former rulers of the Omawhaws is said to be almost absolute. That of the celebrated Black Bird, Wash-ing-guh-sah-ba, seems to have been actually so, and was retained undiminished until his death, which occurred in the year 1800, of the small-pox, which them almost desolated his nation.

Agreeably to his orders, he was interred in a sitting posture, on his favourite horse, upon the summit of a high bluff of the bank of the Missouri, ' that he might continue to see the white people ascending the river to trade with hisnation. A mound was raised over his remains, on which food was regularly placed for many years afterwards: but this rite has been discontinued, and the staff that on its summit supported a white flag, has no longer existence.

"This chief appears to have possessed extraordinary mental abilities, but he resorted to the most nefarious means to establish firmly the supremacy of his power. He gained the reputation of the greatest of medicine men; and his medicine, which was no other than arsenic itself, that had been furnished him for the purpose, by the villany of the traders, was secretly administered to his enemies or rivals. Those persons who offended him, or counteracted his views, were thus removed agreeably to his predictions, and all opposition silenced, apparently by the operation of his potent spells.

"Many were the victims to his unprincipled ambition, and the nation stood in awe of him, as of the supreme arbiter of their fate.

"With all his enormities, he was favourable to the traders; and although he compelled them to yield to him one half of their goods, yet he commanded his people to purchase the remainder at double prices, that the trader might still be a gainer.

"He delighted in the display of his power, and, on one occasion,

during

during a national hunt, accompanied by a white man, they arrived on the bank of a fine flowing stream, and although all were parched with thirst, no one but the white man was permitted to taste of the water. As the chief thought proper to give no reason for this severe punishment, it seemed to be the result of caprice.

"One inferior, but distinguished chief, called Little Bow, at length opposed his power. This man was a warrior of high renown, and so popular in the nation, that it was remarked of him, that he enjoyed the confidence and best wishes of the people, whilst his rival reigned in terror. Such an opponent could not be brooked, and the Black Bird endeavoured to destroy him.

"On one occasion the Little Bow returned to his lodge, after the absence of a few days on an excursion. His wife placed before him his accustomed food; but the wariness of the Indian character led him to observe some peculiarity in her behaviour, which assured him that all was not right: he questioned her concerning the food she had set before him; and the appearance of her countenance, and her replies, so much increased his suspicions, that he compelled her to eat the contents of the bowl. She then confessed that the Black Bird had induced her to mingle with the food a portion of his terrible medicine, in order to destroy him. She fell a victim to the machination of the Black Bird. who was thus disappointed of his

"With a band of nearly two hundred followers, the Little Bow finally seceded from the nation, and established a separate village on the Missouri, where they remained until the death of the tyrant.

"Towards the latter part of his life, he became very corpulent, the consequence of indolence and repletion. He was transported by carriers, on a bison robe, to the various feasts to which he was daily invited; and should the messenger find him asleep, they dared not to awaken him by a noise or by shaking, but by respectfully tickling his nose with a straw." - -

"The odour of the Indian is rather agreeable than otherwise to many; and that diffused by the persons of the Pawnee war party near the Konza village, increased by a profuse perspiration from the violence of their exercise in running, was rather pleasant to most of the members of our party. The Upsaroka, or Crow Indians, are said to anoint themselves with castor."

In war, when the order for attack is given, "the whole move onward, with slow and cautious steps, in order to surprise the enemy; but if discovered, they rush on with impetuosity, and without any regular order. the scene of the contest lies in the forest, they shield themselves behind trees of small diameter, when at the proper distance, from whence they discharge their mis-If the attack is made in the open plain, where no shelter offers, they leap about from one side to another, and preserve a constant state of activity, for the purpose of preventing any steady aim from being taken at them by their adversaries.

"It is not the mere shooting down of an enemy that confers

great

great honour upon a warrior; this, the Indians say, can be done by any person, however cowardly he may be. But high distinction is due to the gallant soul that advances upon the field of battle and captures an enemy, or who first strikes or even touches the body of a fallen enemy, in presence of the friends of the deceased, who are generally watching their opportunity to revenge his death,

"This is, indeed, an extraordinary proof of courage, as the act is not to be accomplished without the greatest hazard of life; the adventurer is obliged to expose himself often to a great number of assailants, besides the danger of falling into an ambush, in attempting to strike the decoy. It is this striking that is numbered amongst their war feats, by the warriors, at their dances."

On arriving at the river Platte, the landscape with its living tenantry is wonderful:

" Our view of the opposite margin of the Platte, during this day's march, had been intercepted by an elevated swell of the surface, which extended along, parallel to the river, that we were now approaching. Immediately upon surmounting this undulation, we saw before us, upon the broad expanse of the left margin of the river, immense herds of bisons, grazing in undisturbed possession, and obscuring, with the density of their numbers, the verdant plain; to the right and left, as far as the eye was permitted to rove, the crowd seemed hardly to diminish, and it would be no exaggeration to say, that at least ten thousand here burst on our sight in the instant. Small columns of dust were occa-1828.

sionally wasted by the wind from bulls that were pawing the earth, and rolling; the interest of action was also communicated to the scene, by the unwieldy playfulness of some individuals, that the eye would occasionally rest upon. their real or affected combats, or by the slow or rapid progress of others to and from their watering On the distant bluffs, individuals were constantly disappearing, whilst others were presenting themselves to our view, until, as the dusk of the evening increased, their massive forms, thus elevated above the line of other objects, were but dimly defined on the skies. We retired to our evening fare, highly gratified with the novel spectacle we had witnessed, and with the most sanguine expectations of the future.

"In the morning we again sought the living picture, but upon all the plain which last evening was so teeming with noble animals, not one remained. We forded the Platte with less delay and difficulty than we had encountered in crossing the north fork."

"The dun colour prevails on the coat of the bison; but the long hair of the anterior part of the body, with the exception of the head, is more or less tinged with yellowish or rust colour. The uniformity of colour, however, amongst these animals is so steadfast, that any considerable deviation from the ordinary standard is regarded by the natives as effected under the immediate influence of the Divinity.

"A trader of the Missouri informed us that he had seen a grayish-white bison, and that another, a yearling calf, was distin-L guished guished by several white spots on the side, and by a white frontal mark and white fore-feet.

" Mr. J. Dougherty saw in an Indian hut a bison head, very well prepared, which had a white star on the front; the owner valued it highly, calling it his great medicine; he could not be tempted to part with it; 'for,' said he, 'the herds come every season into the vicinity to seek their white-faced companion.'

"They are the skins of the cows almost exclusively that are used in commerce; those of the bulls being so large, heavy, and difficult to prepare, that this is comparatively seldom attempted.

"That the bison formerly ranged over the Atlantic states there can be no doubt; and Lawson informs us that even in his time some were killed in Virginia: and Cumming, in his Sketches of a Tour to the Western country, informs us that, 'long after the country (Kentucky) began to be generally settled, and ceased to be a hunting-ground by the Indians,' the 'buffaloes, bears, and deer, were so plenty in the country that little or no bread was used,' and ' the facility of gaining them prevented the progress of agriculture, until the poor innocent buffaloes were completely extirpated, and the other wild This animals much thinned.' process of extirpation has not since been relaxed, and the bison is now driven beyond the lakes, the Illinois, and southern portion of the Mississipi rivers, their range extending from the country west of Hudson's bay to the northern provinces of Mexico."

The Rocky Mountains them-

selves are rich in matural Motory
—many new animals and plants
were discovered—and the author's
description of the ascent to the
highest peak is extremely interesting.

· "We found the trees of a smaller size, and more scattered in proportion to the elevation at which they grew; and arrived at about twelve o'clock at the limit above which none are found. This is a defined line, encircling the peak in a part which, when seen from the plain, appeared near the summit; but when we arrived at it, a greater part of the whole elevation of the mountain seemed still before us. Above the timber the ascent is steeper, but less difficult than below; the surface being so highly inclined, that the large masses, when loosened, roll down, meeting no obstruction until they arrive at the commencement of the timber. The red cedar, and the flexile pine, are the trees which appear at the greatest elevation. These are small, having thick and extremely rigid trunks; and near the commencement of the naked part of the mountain, they have neither limbs nor bark on that side which exposed to the descending masses of rocks. It may appear a contradiction to assert, that trees have grown in a situation so exposed as to be unable to produce or retain bark or limbs on one side; yet of the fact that they are now standing and living in such a situation there can be no doubt. It is, perhaps, probable the timber may formerly have extended to a greater elevation on the sides of this peak than at present, so that those trees which

which are new on the outskirts of the forest were formerly protected by their more exposed

neighbours.

"A few trees were seen above the commencement of snow; but these are very small, and entirely procumbent, being sheltered in the crevices and fissures of the rock. There are also the roots of trees to be seen at some distance above the part where any are now standing.

little above the point where the timber disappears entirely, commences a region of astonishing beauty, and of great interest on account of its produc-The intervals of soil are sometimes extensive, and covered with a carpet of low but brilliantly-flowering alpine plants. of these have either matted procumbent stems, or such as, including the flower, rarely rise more than an inch in height. In many of them the flower is the most conspicuous and the largest part of the plant, and in all the colouring is astonishingly brilliant.

"A deep blue is the prevailing colour among these flowers; and the pentstemon erianthera, the mountain columbine (aquilegia coerules), and other plants common to less elevated districts, were much more intensely coloured than in ordinary situations. cannot be doubted, that the peculiar brilliancy of colouring observed in alpine plants, inhabiting near the utmost limits of phænogamous vegetation, depends, principally upon the intensity of the light transmitted from the bright and unobscured atmosphere of these regions, and increased by reflection from the immense impending masses of snow. May the deep cerulean tint of the sky have an influence in producing the corresponding colour so prevalent in the flowers of these alpine plants? At about two o'clock we found ourselves so much exhausted as to render a halt necessary. - - -

"We halted at a place about a mile above the edge of the timber. The stream by which we were sitting we could perceive to fall immediately from a large body of snow, which falled a deep ravine on the south-eastern side of the peak. Below us, on the right, were two or three extensive patches of snow: and ice could be seen every where in the crevices of the rocks.

" Here, as we were sitting at our dinner, we observed several small animals, nearly of the size of the common grey squirrel; but shorter, and more clumsily built. They were of a dark grey colour, inclining to brown, with a short thick head, and erect rounded ears. In habits and appearance, they resemble the prairie dog, and are believed to be a species of the same genus. The mouth of their barrow is usually placed under the projection of a rock; and pear these the party afterwards saw several of the little animals watching their approach. and uttering all the time a shrill note, somewhat like that of the ground squirrel. Several attempts were made to procure a specimen of this animal, but always without success, as we had no guns but such as carried a heavy ball.

"After sitting about half an hour, we found ourselves somewhat refreshed, but much be-

numbed

numbed with cold. We now found it would be impossible to reach the summit of the mountain, and return to our camp of the preceding night, during that part of the day which remained: but as we could not persuade ourselves to turn back, after having so nearly accomplished the ascent, we resolved to take our chance of spending the night on whatever part of the mountain it might overtake us. - - - We met. as we proceeded, such numbers of unknown and interesting plants, as to occasion much delay in collecting; and were under the mortifying necessity of passing by numbers we saw in situations difficult of access.

" As we approached the summit, these became less frequent, and at length ceased entirely. cryptogamous plants are seen about any part of the mountain; and neither these nor any others occur frequently on the top of the peak. There is an area of ten or fifteen acres, forming the summit, which is nearly level; and on this part scarce a lichen was to be It is covered to a great depth with large splintery fragments of a rock entirely similar to that found at the base of the peak, except perhaps a little more compact in its structure. By removing a few of these fragments, they were found to rest upon a bed of ice, which is of great thickness, and may, perhaps, be as permanent as the rocks, with which it

" "It was about four o'clock P.M. when the party arrived on the summit. - - -

"The weather was calm and clear while the detachment remained on the peak; but we were surprised to observe the air in every direction filled with such clouds of grasshoppers, as partially to obscure the day. been seen in vast numbers about all the higher parts of the mountain, and many had fallen upon the snow and perished. perhaps, difficult to assign the cause which induces these insects to ascend to those highly elevated regions of the atmosphere. Possibly they may have undertaken migrations to some remote district; but there appears not the least uniformity in the direction of their movements. They extended upwards from the summit of the mountain to the utmost limit of vision; and as the sun shone brightly, they could be seen, by the glittering of their wings, at a very considerable distance.

"About all the woodless parts of the mountain, and particularly on the summit, numerous tracks were seen, resembling those of the common deer, but most probably have been those of the animal called the big horn."

The account of the Coquimbo owl relates to the curious habits of that bird:

"In all the prairie-dog villages we had passed, small owls had been observed moving briskly about, but they had hitherto eluded all our attempts to take One was here caught, and on examination, found to be the species denominated coquimbo, or burrowing owl, (strix cunicu-This fellow citizen of the prairie-dog, unlike its grave and recluse congeners, is of a social disposition, and does not retire from the light of the sun, but endures the strongest mid-day glare of that luminary, and is in all respects

respects a diurnal bird. It stands high upon its legs, and flies with the rapidity of the hawk. The coquimbo owl, both in Chili and St. Domingo, agreeably to the accounts of Molina and Viellot, digs large burrows for its habitations, and for the purposes of incubation; the former author gives us to understand that the burrow penetrates the earth to a considerable depth, whilst Viellot informs us that in St. Domingo the depth is about two feet.

"With us the owl never occurred but in the prairie-dog villages, sometimes in a small flock much scattered, and often perched on different hillocks, at a distance deceiving the eye with the appearance of the prairie-dog itself in an erect posture. They are not shy, but readily admit the hunter within gun-shot; but on his too near approach, a part or the whole of them rise upon the wing, uttering a note very like that of the prairie-dogs, and alight at a short distance, or continue their flight beyond the view.

"The burrows into which we have seen the owl descend, resembled in all respects those of the prairie-dog, leading us to suppose either that they were common, though perhaps not friendly occupants of the same burrow, or that the owl was the exclusive tenant of a burrow gained by right of conquest. But it is at the same time possible, that, as in Chili, the owl may excavate his own tenement.

"From the remarkable coincidence of note between these two widely distinct animals, we might take occasion to remark the probability of the prairie-dog being an unintentional tutor to the young owl, did we not know that this bird utters the same sounds in the West Indies, where the prairie-dog is not known to exist."

21. Recollections of the Peninsula. By the Author of Sketches in India. London 1823.

The author of this book is an officer attached to the victorious force of the illustrious Wellington in Spain.

His acquaintance with his subject was acquired during five years' residence, from the year 1809; and, to commence with the commencement, we shall copy his account of his first billet in Portugal (at Santarem):

"The regiment was quartered for the night in a convent, and I received a billet on a private house. At the door of it I was met by the owner, a gentlemanlike looking well-dressed man, of about sixty, and of a very mild, pleasing address: he led the way to a neat apartment, and a pretty bedchamber. I was covered with dust and dirt, and declined them as too good; but how was my confusion increased, when my host himself brought me water in a silver basin to wash, while his good lady presented me with chocolate, bearing it herself on a salver. I feared that they had mistaken my rank from my two epaulettes, and I explained to them that I was a simple Lieutenant. No; they well knew my rank, but did not pay me the less attention: they perfumed my chamber with rose-water, took off my knapsack with their own hands, and then left me to refresh myself by washing and dressing, and to recover from the pleasing astonishment into which their cordial and polite reception had thrown me. In the evening my party dined here, and the worthy host presented us with some magnums of fine old wine, and the choicest fruit. We made scruples; he over-ruled them with true and unaffected hospitality, and we, in return, pressed on his acceptance six bottles of excellent Sauterne, the remains of our small stock of French wine.

" Such was my treatment in the first billet I ever entered in Portugal, and such, with very few exceptions, was the character of the reception given by Portuguese of all classes, according to their means, at the commencement of the peninsula struggle, to the British army: rich and poor, the clergy and laity, the fidalgo and the peasant, all expressed an eagerness to serve, and readiness to honour us. In these early marches, the villa, the monastery, and the cottage were thrown open at the approach of our troops; the best apartments, the neatest cells, the humble but only beds, were all resigned to the marchworn officers and men, with undisguised cheerfulness. with pain I am compelled to confess, that the manners of my strange, but well-meaning, countrymen soon wrought a change in the kind dispositions of this people."

This quotation may appropriately be followed by a more striking picture of a bivouack:

"It is a pleasing sight to see a column arrive at its halting-ground. The camp is generally marked out, if circumstances allow of it, on the edge of some wood, and near a river or stream. The troops are halted in open columns,

arms piled, picquets and guards paraded and posted, and, in two minutes, all appear at home. Some fetch large stones to form fire-places; others hurry off with canteens and kettles for water, while the wood resounds with the blows of the bill-hook. persed, under the more distant trees, you see the officers; some dressing, some arranging a few boughs to shelter them by night; others kindling their own fires; while the most active are seen returning from the village laden with bread, or, from some flock of goats feeding near us, with a supply of new milk. How often, under some spreading cork-tree, which offered shade, shelter, and fuel, have I taken up my lodging for the night; and here, or by some gurgling stream, my bosom fanned by whatever air was stirring, made my careless toilet, and sat down with men I both liked and esteemed, to a coarse but wholesome meal, seasoned by hunger and by cheerfulness. The rude simplicity of this life I found most pleasing. An enthusiastic admirer of nature, I was glad to move and dwell amid her grandest scenes, remote from cities, and unconnected with what is called society. Her mountains, her forests, and, sometimes, her bare and bladeless plains, yielded me a passing home: her rivers, streams, and springs, cooled my brow and allayed my thirst. The mconvenience of one camp taught me to enjoy the next; and I learned (a strange lesson for the thoughtless) that wood and water, shade and grass, were luxuries. I saw the sun set every evening: I saw him rise again each morning in all his majesty, and I felt that my very existence was a blessing. Strange,

Strange, indeed, to observe how soon men, delicately brought up, can inure themselves to any thing. Wrapt in a blanket, or a cloak, the head reclining on a stone or a knapsack, covered by the dews of night, or drenched perhaps by the thunder-shower, sleeps many a youth, to whom the carpeted chamber, the curtained couch, and the bed of down, have been from infancy familiar."

" A bivouack in heavy weather does not, I allow, present a very comfortable appearance. The officers sit shivering in their wet tents, idle and angry till dinnertime, after which they generally contrive to kill the evening with mulled wine, round a camp-kettle lid filled with hot wood-ashes by way of a fire. The men, with their forage caps drawn over their ears, huddle together under banks or walls, or crowd round cheerless. smoky fires, cursing their commissaries, the rain, and the French."

Another view occurs upon a march, going to sick quarters:

"At the distance of 2 leagues Estremos, the sun set with the most threatening appear-A sky heavily overcast; a breathless, yet speaking stillness around us; far off, amid the southern hills, a low muttering cound, that faintly reached us; all foretold a violent autumnal storm. Being both invalids, we felt not a little anxious about shelter, and spurred forward; but strength was denied me, and I fell on the neck of my horse, nearly fainting: the colonel would not leave me, and bidding me recline on my saddle, made his groom lead my animal by the bridle. Here you may frequently travel from one town to another without

passing a village, a country-house, a cottage, or indeed a human being. No clean ale-house, as in England; no rustic auberge, as in France, invites you to refreshment and repose. If you are benighted, and the weather be fine, you must betake yourself to the first tree; if it be stormy, and you have no baggage, or conveniencies for encamping, you must wander on. Luckily, however, for us, we espied a light at some distance from the road, and made towards it. It proceeded from a solitary cottage; and a woman, who answered to our knocks, expressed her willingness to receive us. Wretched as was her appearance, I never saw more cordial, more fearless hospitality: she heaped up her little fire, killed and stewed for us two out of the few chickens she had. spread for us two straw mattresses near the hearth, and regarded us the while with looks of the most benevolent pleasure. Seated on a rude bench of cork, near this cottage fire, I thankfully partook of the repast she prepared; and while the thunder burst in peals the most loud and awful over our heads, and the pouring rain beat rudely on her humble dwelling. with a heartfelt sensation of gratitude I composed myself to rest.

"Comfort is ever comparative; and, after all, if his wishes he moderate, how little does man require. Sick, hungry, and exhausted, I wanted shelter, food, and repose: I enjoyed all these blessings; the storm raged without, but not a raindrop fell on me. I never ate with a keener relish, I never passed a night in more sweet or refreshing slumbers. Yet where, let me ask, was the hotel in England which, in the

caprice

caprice of sickness, would have satisfied all my wants and wishes? When we rose with the morning · to depart, our good hostess was resolute in refusing any remuneration, though the wretched appearance of her hovel, and the rags on her children, bespoke the extreme of poverty. 'No,' said she; ' the saints guided you to my threshold, and I thank them. My husband, too, was journeying **yes**terday, perhaps last night, amid that thunder-storm: he also knocked at some Christian's door. and found shelter.' "

But all the foregoing yield to

the first encounter:

---" Two hours before break of day, the line was under arms; but the two hours glided by rapidly and silently. At last, just as the day dawned, a few distant shots were heard on our left, and were soon followed by the discharge of cannon, and the quick, heavy, and continued roll of musquetry. We received orders to move, and support the troops attacked: the whole of Hill's corps, amounting to fourteen thousand men, was thrown into open column, and moved to its left in steady double quick, and in the highest order.

"When within about a furlong of one of the points of attack, from which the enemy was just then driven by the seventy-fourth regiment, I cast my eye back to see if I could discover the rear of our divisions: eleven thousand men were following; all in sight, all in open column, all rapidly advancing in double quick time. No one, but a soldier, can picture to himself such a sight; and it is, even for him, a rare and a grand one. It certainly must have had a very strong effect on such of

the enemy as, from the summit of the ridge, which they had most intrepidly ascended, beheld it, and who, ignorant of Hill's presence, thought they had been attacking the extreme of the British right. We were halted exactly in rear of that spot, from which the seventy-fourth regiment, having just repulsed a column, was retiring in line, with the most beautiful regularity, its colours all torn with shot. Here a few shells flew harmlessly over our line, but we had not the honour of being engaged. The first wounded man I ever beheld in the field was carried past me, at this moment: he was a fine young Englishman, in the Portuguese service, and lay helplessly in a blanket, with both his legs shattered by cannonshot. He looked pale, and big drops of perspiration stood on his manly forehead; but he spoke not-his agony appeared unutterable. I secretly wished him death; a mercy, I believe, that was not very long withheld. About this time, Lord Wellington, with a numerous staff, galloped up, delivered his orders General Hill. immediately front of our corps; I therefore distinctly overheard him. they attempt this point again, Hill, you will give them a volley, and charge bayonets; but don't let your people follow them too far down the hill.' I was particularly struck with the style of this order, so decided, so manly, and breathing no doubt as to the repulse of any attack; it confirmed confidence. Lord Wellington's simplicity of manner in the delivery of orders, and in command, is quite that of an able man. He has nothing of the truncheon about him: him; nothing full-mouthed, important, or fussy: his orders, on the field, are all short, quick, clear, and to the purpose. French, however, never moved us throughout the day: their two desperate assaults had been successfully repelled, and their loss, as compared to ours, exceedingly severe. From the ridge, in front of our present ground, we could see them far better than the evening before; arms, appointments, uniforms, were all distinguishable. They occupied themselves in removing their wounded from the foot of our position; but as none of their troops broke up, it was generally concluded that they would renew their attacks on the In the course of the day, our men went down to a small brook, which flowed between the opposing armies, for water; and French and English soldiers might be seen drinking out of the same narrow stream. and even leaning over to shake hands with each other. private, of my own regiment, actually exchanged forage-caps with a soldier of the enemy, as a token of regard and good-will. courtesies, if they do not disguise, at least soften the horrid features of war; and it is thus we learn to reconcile our minds to scenes of blood and carnage. Towards sun-set, our picquets were sent down the hill, and I plainly saw them posted among the corpses of those who had fallen in the morning. Nothing, however, immediately near us, presented the idea of recent slaughter; for the loss, on our side, was so partial, and considering the extent of our line, so trifling, that there was little, if any, vestige of it: not so

the enemy's; but as they suffered principally on their retreat down the hill, their slain lay towards the bottom of it; from whence, indeed, they had been removing their wounded.

"The view of the enemy's camp by night far exceeded. in grandeur, its imposing aspect by day. Innumerable and brilliant fires illuminated all the country spread below us: while they yet flamed brightly, the shadowy figures of men and horses, and the glittering piles of arms, were all visible. Here and there, indeed, the view was interrupted by a few dark patches of black fir, which, by a gloomy contrast, heightened the effect of the picture; but, long after the flames expired, the red embers still emitted the most rich and glowing rays, and seemed, like stars, to gem the dark bosom of the earth, conveying the sublime idea of a firmament spread beneath our It was long before I could tear myself from the contemplation of this scene. Earnestly did I gaze on it : deeply did it impress me; and my professional life may never, perhaps, again present to me any military spectacle more truly magnificent. Every one was fully persuaded that the morning would bring with it a general and bloody engagement."

Again—" The battle-array of a large army is a most noble and imposing sight. To see the hostile lines and columns formed, and prepared for action; to observe their generals and mounted officers riding smartly from point to point, and to mark every now and then, one of their guns opening on your own staff reconnoitring them, is a scene very ani-

mating

meting, and a fine prelude to a general engagement. On your own side, too, the hammering of flints and loosening of cartridges; the rattle of guns and tumbrils, as they come careering up to take their appointed stations; and the swift galloping of aide-de-camps in every direction, here bringing reports to their generals, there conveying orders to the attacking columns, all speak of peril and death, but also of anticipated victory; and so cheeringly, that a sensation of proud hope swells the bosom, which is equal, if not superior, to the feeling of exultation in the secure moment of pursuit and triumph."

Sometimes a small river only divided the armies, and the out-

posts chatted across.

Walking by the river side, we observed several French officers. They saluted us, with a 'Bon jour, Messieurs;' and we soon fell into conversation. They were exceedingly courteous—They asked after Lord Wellington; praising him greatly for his conduct of the campaign. They next enquired, if our king was not dead; and on our replying that he was not, one of them repeated, 'Le général dit, que tout le monde aime votre Roi George, qu'il a été bon père de famille, et bon père de son peuple.' - - - A great deal of good-humour prevailed; we quizzed each other freely. - - -They had a theatre; and asked us to come over, and witness the performance of that evening, which would be, 'L'Entrée des François dans Lisbon.' A friend of mine most readily replied, that he recommended to them "La répétition d'une nouvelle pièce, 'La Fuite des François.'" They

burst into a long, loud, and general laugh:—the joke was too good, too home. Their general, however, did not think it wise to remain longer; but he pulled off his hat, and wishing us good day with perfect good-humour, went up the hill, and the group immediately dispersed."

Of Vittoria we have not only an excellent general account, but some very affecting details:

"A paymaster of a regiment of British Infantry had two sons, lieutenants in the corps in which he served; be was a widower, and had no relations besides these youths; they lived in his tent, were his pride and delight. civil staff of a regiment usually remain with the baggage when the troops engage, and join them with it afterwards. In the evening, when this paymaster came up, an officer met him. boys,' said the old man, 'how are they? Have they done their duty? — They have behaved nobly; but you have lost'---'Which of them?'- 'Alas! both; they are numbered with the dead.' --- A friend of mine, belonging to another corps, lay wounded in Vittoria. I heard of it, and hastened to his billet. I found him reclining on a sofa, and looking. as I thought, remarkably well. He received me cordially and 'I rejoice,' said I, obeerfully. 'to see you smiling; your injury is of course slight.'—'You are mistaken; my wound is mortal, and my hours, I believe, are almost numbered. I shall never leave this room but as a corpse; but these are events which should never take a soldier by surprise. ---- He died in two days. ---Returning from his funeral, I met

a serieant of my regiment, who had come with an escort from the division. 'How are they all, serjeant?' said I, 'We have lost Mr. —,' 'How? in an affair?' - 'No; we had a dreadful storm among the mountains, and in one of the narrowest passes, himself and his horse were struck by lightning, and killed on the spot. This too was a noble-minded zealous officer, one who had braved many a scene of peril, and whose ambition it had ever been to perish in the field. You grow familiar on service with death and sorrow; you do not weep-but if he have an eye to observe, and a heart to feel, few men see or suffer more than a soldier."

We shall conclude by giving from the Sketches a striking one of an Arragoneze Guerrilla:

-- "He was wounded in the leg, and of course for a time incapable of service. The circumstances of his situation, the fate of his family, and his language, will explain the nature both of the formation and feelings of many of these Guerrilla corps, better perhaps than a far longer and more detailed account of I asked him where he them. lived, and under whom he served. 'Senhor,' said he, 'I have no home, no relations, nothing save my country and my sword. My father was led out, and shot in the market-place of my native village; our cottage was burned; my mother died of grief; and my wife, who had been violated by the enemy, fled to me, then a volunteer with Palafox, and died in my arms, in a hospital in Saragossa. I serve under no particular chief. I am too miserable; I feel too revengeful to support the

restraint of discipline and the delay of manœuvre. I go on any enterprise I hear of: if I am poor, on foot; if chance or plunder has made me rich, on horseback; I follow the boldest leader; but I have sworn never dress a vine or plough a field till the enemy is driven out of Spain.' Such was the desperate, the undying hatred to the French which many of these Guerrillas cherished — a hatred which often had its source in wrongs and losses like those I have related."

 Travels in the Interior of Southern Africa. By William J. Burchell, Esq. Vol. II. London, 1824.

The author set out from Klaar-water, journeyed through a part of the Bushmen's land, visited one considerable kraal, had a good deal of intercourse with the natives, and regained the borders of the colony on his way to Graaf-freynet.

The outfit is thus described:

"The difficulties which heavy baggage might occasion, and the impediment it might become in crossing a pathless or mountainous country, were considerations sufficient to restrain us from taking any thing which was not absolutely indispensable; when, in debating this question, I put aside the influence of habit and custom, and of those necessities which belong only to civilized society, I discovered that we might dispense with nearly every thing; even with all our cooking utensils, excepting a small tin pot and a tea-kettle. either gridiron or saucepan, we

cooked all our meat, either broiled on the embers, or stuck on forked sticks before the fire. Nor could we admit the encumbrance even of plates and forks. therefore entered upon this journey with no other provision than our watchcoats and covering for the night, our guns and ammunition, a hatchet, a quantity of tobacco intended principally for presents to the Bushmen, and five sheep. To this I added for myself, three blankets, an umbrella. and two tin boxes, one to hold my papers, my journal, and sketches, my compass, and a few other light articles of this kind; and the other, a change of linen, and a small assortment of the more important medicines, particularly the volatile alkali, or liquid ammonia, for the bite of serpents."

" Kaabi (a Bushman) seemed to be about the age of forty; sedate, and rather reserved in his manners: but his wife could not have been more than fifteen, and among Bushwomen might certainly pass as pretty. Her height was less than five feet, and her figure proportionably delicate. Her face was plump and oval; and, owing to her youth, had not yet begun to exhibit that peculiar Hottentot feature, the narrow-pointed chin. Her eyes were remarkable for being bright and open; a beauty which is never retained beyond the days of youth; as constant exposure to the winds, and the glare of light in a dry open country, soon induce the habit of always keeping their eyelids half-She wore a leathern cap ornamented with beads - - - and was not without some personal vanity, as may be concluded from her wearing a great number of

leathern bracelets, and a pair of cowry shells hanging from her forehead; and to which was added a large copper ring in each The beads, which were displayed upon her cap, were arranged not without some taste, and with great attention to regalarity. Her child, of which she was very careful and fond, seemed to be at least eight months old, and was never, during the whole day, removed from her back. was supported there by one of the hinder aprons, turned up and tied over the shoulder: and in this situation the poor little infant was suckled, by bringing its head forward under the mother's arm.

"At her back also she carried a roll of skins: these being spread on the ground at night. served both for bedding and for a protection from the dampness of the earth. To this load were added a sifting-mat, and three sticks about five feet in length, used either for assisting in walking, or for digging up the wild roots which she might happen to ob-

serve on the way."

"The situation (of a kraal) was on every quarter exposed, and without a tree to interrupt the view. Bushmen, in pitching their kraal, always chuse a spot so bare and open that no enemy can approach them without being seen. The top of a hill which stands separately on a plain, is therefore an approved site; because, with eyes little inferior in optical power to small telescopes, they can, while they themselves remain unobserved, watch, every movement around to a great distance.

" I noticed that the opening or entrance of each hut was always directed towards the inside of the circle, so that the urea surrounded by their dwellings, and where they keep their cattle at night, was within sight of all the inhabitants; and no attempt by their enemies to carry off their cattle in the night, could be made without being immediately per-With a view, as I imaceived. gine, of having their arms always in readiness, their hassagays were stuck upright into the ground close by the side of the hut, being, in fact, too long to be placed conveniently within it; while their quivers, arrows and bows, being their principal weapon, lay by their side, ready at hand for the first moment of alarm." - - -

In a female party the girls were

timid and bashful:

"Their mothers allowed themselves more privileges, and felt no hesitation in answering my questions relative to their marriage customs. Such characters as men and women passing their lives in a state of celibacy do not exist among the wild nations of Southern Africa; and in this particular, savages hold a superiority over the most polished nations Europe. The women informed me, that girls are most commonly betrothed when not older than a child whom they pointed out to me, and whose age appeared to be about seven years; that is, the husband early bespeaks her, in order to preclude every other man, in the mean while, from all pretensions, and from all hope of gaining her: and, as these men generally take a second wife as soon as the first becomes somewhat advanced in years, this custom of securing another beforehand is perhaps necessary, in order to evoid those contentions

which might otherwise arise in cases of this nature, and where the girl herself is seldom allowed a voice in choosing her husband. In two or three years, or less, according to circumstances, after being thus betrothed, the girl changes her abode from mother's hut to that of the bridegroom. These bargains are made with her parents only, and without ever consulting the wishes (even if she had any) of the They are made by daughter. offering them a leathern bag, or some similar article, which, if accepted, ratifies and confirms the match. I saw at this kraal several mothers who could not have been more than ten or twelve years old.

"When it happens, which is not often the case, that a girl has grown up to womanhood without having previously been betrothed, her lover must gain her own approbation, as well as that of the parents; and on this occasion his attentions are received with an affectation of great alarm and disinclination on her part, and with some squabbling on the part of

her friends."

"Several of these girls might be said to be pretty, more on account of their youth and the pleasing expression of their countenances, than of any beauty of features; but it is doubtful whether, throughout the whole nation, one could be found whom a European could deem handsome. When, in the morning, they came to the general distribution of tobacco, they had not yet performed the duties of their toilet; but I now had the pleasure of beholding them as fine and as captivating as buku and red-ochre could make them.

them. The former, as a green powder, was sprinkled over their head and neck, and the latter, mixed with grease, was applied in daubs or streaks over or along the nose, and across the cheekbones; and what was thought by these simple Africans to be the most graceful and fascinating style of adorning themselves, was precisely the same as that which the clowns and buffoons at our fairs have adopted in order to render their appearance absurd and ridiculous.

"Many of the women were distinguished by having the hair of the forehead, by the constant accumulation of grease and redochre, clotted into large red lumps like stone; this was not through neglect of cleaning it away, but from a fancy that it was highly becoming, and that it added greatly to their charms. Some had the crown of their heads shaved, or, rather, scraped bald, and a row of buttons fastened round the remaining hair which had been left in its natural state. All of them wore bracelets, either of leather, or of twisted sinew. or copper; and most of them were decorated with some kind of ornament hanging from the ear. Their stature was extremely small, and their figure in general delicate; their height being universally less than five feet.

"With regard to polygamy, I was told that a second wife is never taken, until the first, as before stated, has become old, not in years, but in constitution: and sometimes, though rarely, a third supplies, in like manner, the place of the second. This was generally the greatest extent of their polygamy; nor were the old

wives, on that account, neglected or left unprovided for by their husbands; but constantly remained with him on the same terms as before. I could not learn that any nice feelings of jealousy between these wives ever disturbed the harmony of the family."

"Some men passing by, seemed much amused at my questions, and joined us: on which I inquired of the women if their husbands ever beat them; well knowing that this subject was one of great importance in their domestic arrangements. The men laughed, and quickly replied, 'No. no.' The women as loudly cried, 'Yes, yes; they beat us on the head — so.' And sufficiently proved the truth of their assertion, by the ready and natural manner in which they imitated this act of conjugal discipline.

"In one house, a little family group were drinking their goatsmilk from a leathern bowl, and in a manner perfectly novel. all the instruments for conveying liquid to the mouth, a brush must appear the least adapted to such a purpose: but with no other means than this, they emptied their bowl; and perhaps have diacovered that the greater length of time which this mode requires, prolongs also the pleasure of their meal. The brush was made of strong hair, and of a thickness sufficient to fill the mouth. The manner of using it, was by dipping it into the bowl, and sucking the milk out of it."

"A short distance farther, I met an old woman, who, having heard that I was desirous of knowing every thing relative to their customs, very good naturedly stopped me to show her hands, and bade me observe that the little finger of the right hand had lost two joints, and that of the left, one. She explained to me, that they had been cut off at different times, to express grief or mourning for the death of three daughters. After this, I looked more attentively at those whom I met, and saw many other women, and some of the men, with their hands mutilated in the same manner; but it was only their little fingers which were thus shortened; and probably the loss of those joints was found to occasion no inconvenience."

"The heads of all their arrows were covered with a deadly poison; but they explained, that some were more especially intended to be used against their enemies, and that others were made only for killing game.

"Many of the men were observed to have lost an eye, but the cause which they assigned for this has not been recorded in my journal, and I will therefore not incur the risk of misleading by any surmise of my own. The fact is remarkable."

"Their dancing is of a singular kind; and I know not if, among all the tribes of savages on the globe, any thing similar is to be found: it certainly is not to be met with in any civilized nation. One foot remains motionless, while the other dances in a quick, wild, irregular manner, changing its place but little, though the knee and leg is turned from side to side as much as the attitude will allow. arms have little motion, their duty being to support the body. dancer continues singing all the while, and keeps time with every movement; sometimes twisting the body in sudden starts, till at last,

as if fatigued by the violence of his exertions, he drops upon the ground to recover breath; still maintaining the spirit of the dance, and continuing to sing, and keep time by the motion of his body, to the voices and accompaniments of the spectators. In a few seconds he starts up again, and proceeds with renewed vigour. When one foot is tired out, or has done its share of the dance, the other comes forward and performs the same part; and thus, changing legs from time to time, it seemed as though he meant to convince his friends that he could dance for ever.

"Round each ankle he wore a sort of rattle, made (in this instance) of four ears of the spring-buck, sewed up and containing a quantity of small pieces of ostrichegg shell, which at every motion of the foot produced a sound that was not unpleasant or harsh, but greatly aided the general effect of the performances.

"Although only one person could dance at a time, the surrounding company were not therefore the less employed or amused: all joined in the accompaniments, and were equally essential with the dancer himself to the evening's entertainment, and contributed not less to the pleasure it afforded. These accompaniments consisted in singing, and beating the drum. Every one of the party sang, and and all kept time by gently clapping hands. The words made use of, and which had no meaning in themselves, were simply Aye O, Aye O, repeated during the whole time; and at the sound O, the hands were brought together: the dancer only using the syllables Wawakoo. Both men and women assisted in this singing, and though not in unison, were still correctly in harmony with each other: but the voices of the girls, pitched a fifth or sixth higher, were maintained with more animation.

"The drum was nothing more than a bambus, or wooden jug, having a piece of wet parchment strained over the top, and contain-This instruing a little water. ment was occasionally inverted for the purpose of wetting the parchment, as often as it became dry. It was beaten with the right forefinger, by one of the women; while she regulated the pitch, or quality of the sound, by placing the forefinger and thumb of her left hand upon the parchment. seemed to be accurately in tune with the voices of the assembly; a concordance which could hardly be accidental."

" One of the women, who had a child at her back, seemed to be eagerly in search of something which she saw between the folds of her kaross and the twists of her bracelets, and leathern necklace. I noticed that her hand was frequently lifted to her mouth, or held out to her babe. My curiosity induced me to look more narrowly into these operations, and I discovered, not without strong sensations, that the objects of her active and earnest pursuit were certain little crawling things, which, though in England viewed with disgust, were here sought for with complacence, and presented by an affectionate mother to her tender infant, who held out its little innocent hand to receive them as bonbons."

"Speelman and Juli had yesterday separated from the rest, for the purpose of hunting, and had, though on horseback, been absent the whole night. But Juli came home this morning with the agreeable information of their having shot a large male kanna (or cland,) which he had left in the plain at a considerable distance northward, and a few miles to the right of our course. They had also fallen in with two lions, but had wisely declined having any dealings with them.

"We therefore immediately packed up our baggage, and departed, under his guidance. day was exceedingly pleasant, and not a cloud was to be seen. a mile or two, we travelled along the banks of the river, which in this part abounded in tall matrushes. The dogs seemed much to enjoy prowling about and examining every bushy place, and at last met with some object among the rushes, which caused them to set up a most vehement and determined barking. We explored the spot with caution, as we suspected from the peculiar tone of their bark that it was, what it proved to be, lions. Having encouraged the dogs to drive them out, a task which they performed with great willingness, we had a full view of an enormous black-maned lion and a lioness. The latter was seen only for a minute, as she made her escape up the river under concealment of the rushes: but the lion came steadily forward, and stood still to look at us. At this moment we felt our situstion not free from danger, as the animal seemed preparing to spring upon us, and we were standing on the bank at the distance of only a few yards from him, most of us being on foot and unarmed, without any visible possibility of escaping. I had given up my horse to the hunters, and was on

foot

foot myself; but there was no time for fear, and it was useless to attempt avoiding him. Poor Truy was in great alarm; she clasped her infant to her bosom, and screamed out, as if she thought her destruction inevitable, calling anxiously to those who were nearest the animal, Take care! Take care! In great fear for my safety, she half insisted upon my moving farther off: I, however, stood well upon my guard, holding my pistols in my hand, with my finger upon the trigger; and those who had muskets kept themselves prepared in the same manner. But at this instant the dogs boldly flew in between us and the lion, and, surrounding him, kept him at bay by their violent and resolute barking. The courage of these faithful animals was most admirable: they advanced up to the side of the huge beast, and stood making the greatest clamour in his face, without the least appearance of fear. The lion, conscious of his strength, remained unmoved at their noisy attempts, and kept his head turned towards us. At one moment. the dogs perceiving his eye thus engaged, had advanced close to his feet, and seemed as if they would actually seize hold of him; but they paid dearly for their imprudence, for, without discomposing the majestic and steady attitude in which he stood fixed, he merely moved his paw, and at the next instant I beheld two lying dead. In doing this, he made so little exertion, that it was scarcely perceptible by what means they had been killed. Of the time which we had gained by the interference of the dogs, not a moment was lost: we fired upon him; one of the balls went through his side, 1823.

just between the short ribs, and the blood immediately began to flow; but the animal still remained standing in the same position. We had now no doubt that he would spring upon us; every gun was instantly reloaded; but happily we were mistaken, and were not sorry to see him move quietly away, though I had hoped in a few minutes to have been enabled to take hold of his paw without

danger.

"This was considered by our party to be a lion of the largest size, and seemed, as I measured him by comparison with the dogs, to be, though less bulky, as large He was certainly as as an ox. long in body, though lower in stature; and his copious mane gave him a truly formidable appear-He was of that variety which the Hottentots and boors distinguish by the name of the black lion, on account of the blacker colour of the mane, and which is said to be always larger and more dangerous than the other, which they call the pale lion (vaal leeuw). Of the courage of the lion I have no very high opinion; but of his majestic air and movement, as exhibited by this animal, while at liberty in his native plains, I can bear testimony. Notwithstanding the pain of a wound, of which he must soon afterwards have died, he moved slowly away with a stately and measured step.

At Klaarwater, the chief incident which occurred was the biting off of the tails of three of the oxen one night by the Wilde Honden (wild dogs). "This species of hyena is remarkable for hunting in regular packs: though in general a nocturnal animal, it frequently pursues its prey by day; and, as it

M

is well formed by nature for speed, none but the fleeter animals can escape. Sheep and oxen, therefore, are more particularly exposed to its attacks: the first openly, but the latter only by stealth, as in the present instance, surprising them in their sleep, and suddenly biting off the tail; which the large opening and great power of their jaws enable them to do with ease.

"I have never heard (continues the author) that large cattle are assaulted by them in any other way; but the loss of their tail is a cruel inconvenience to cows and oxen, in a country where the warmth of the climate subjects them to great annoyance from flies."

"Observing a family busied in taking their house to pieces, I amused myself in watching the progress of their work, supposing they were about to pack it up and depart; but as soon as this was done, they carried all the materials, after having well beaten them, to a distance only of a few yards, where they soon erected it The whole operation of pulling down, removing, and building up, occupied no more than six hours; and it might possibly have been done in much less time. On inquiring the reason of what I thought an odd whim, their thus taking so much trouble and only to move so short a distance, one of the women convinced me of their having very good cause for changing the place, as the spot was swarming with fleas. This is a domestic misfortune very common among Hottentots; and as the active little insect is always found to be too powerful, they endure this ejectment, as one of the unavoidable evils of life, and quietly retreat, leaving their nu-

merous enemies in possession of the field. In warm dry climates these insects are every where trouble-some. The Dutch colonists, who in general are far from being neglectful of domestic cleanliness, are in the summer obliged frequently to sprinkle their floors with water, a method which is found to be effectual for driving them away. But the Hottentots, to save themselves this daily trouble, prefer that of occasionally removing their huts altogether."

An idea may be formed of the distress to which the author was exposed in travelling, by quoting a description of his sufferings (even within the bounds of the colony) in descending from the Spitskop (Peak,) or highest point of the mountain range, called Sneeuw-

berg (Snow Mountains).

"All were now wrapped up in every piece of clothing they possessed; and Ruiter had so tied himself up in skins of various sorts and colours, sheep-skins, leopardskins, and goat-skins, that he looked more like an automaton pile of furs than a man. The rain and mist became colder as we advanced; or rather, we felt it more keenly in proportion as we lost the warmth which we had acquired by the fire-side. The mist penetrated where the rain could not; and every thing was either wet or damp. The cold grew more piercing, and my people more silent and dejected. I endeavoured to keep up their spirits, by assuring them that, as soon as we should descend the mountain, we should find fair and warm weather, for we were then among the clouds, or rather, the clouds had sunk upon us. Yet, though much chilled and benumbed, I did not myself suffer so much as my Klaarwater Hottentots:

they

they had long been accustomed only to the warm climate of the Transgariepine, and three of them were, besides, advanced in years, and one of these much enfeebled by age. Speelman and Philip, who, like myself, had been somewhat hardened by constant exposure to every kind of weather, and being, excepting myself, the youngest of the party, were the least of all affected by the cold. The sheep, of which we had only two remaining, and the dogs, began to droop. Still, the hope of soon descending to a lower level gave us courage

to go forward. "In this state we had been travelling about two hours and a half, when Philip, as I was riding in advance, hastily came on to tell me that the people were unable to proceed any farther, and that they were of opinion that the Bushboy was dying. When I returned, they all declared that they could endure the cold no longer. Old Cobus Berends's countenance was much changed, and in so weak a voice he told me that the cold had seized his heart, that I really believed, considering his age, that he was struck with death. I had never before thought myself in so serious a situation: the poor little Bushboy, who, excepting his kaross, was nearly naked, had seated himself down by the road-side. When I went to him, I found him affected to so alarming a degree, that he had no power either to move or to speak, and his face had assumed that peculiar yellowness which, among blacks, is the visible symptom of either approaching dissolution, or the decay of energy

in the vital functions.

"The most distressing reflections crowded on my mind. It

appeared that the hand of death lay already upon him. What was I to tell the father at my return? That he had died of cold? This would not have been believed. should have been accused of being the cause of his death; or of having left him in captivity under some of the boors. My return through the Bushmen's country would be impracticable. Kaabi, and the whole tribe, would have considered me no longer as their friend; but as one who had treacherously deceived them, and betraved the confidence of a father. The whole plan of my travels was deranged. I could not rejoin my waggons but by making a circuit by the Sack river again, and waiting for some favourable opportunity of crossing the Cisgariepine. These sad forebodings rushed upon me, and entirely occupied my mind: they made me forget my own personal feelings, and that every one of my men was now suffering from the severity of the weather.

"We had therefore no alternative but to halt, although in an exposed open place, without a tree, or scarcely a bush, that could afford us shelter. While those who were able to move were unloading the oxen, two others went in search of firewood. This spot I have distinguished on the map by the name of Cold Station; a name which, at this time, was more applicable to it than to any other station in the whole of my travels.

"On account of the rain, which continued falling, and the wetness of our fuel, we found the greatest difficulty in kindling a fire; but the people took care afterwards to supply it with large quantities of

¥2 wood

wood, so that for some hours it continued to burn in spite of the mist and rain.

"My first concern was to bring the Bushboy to life; for he had no other appearance than that of a dying person. We placed him by the fire, and I wrapped him up in one of my own blankets: but he remained for half an hour completely speechless, and nearly unable to move. He took no notice either of the fire or of any thing around him; and Philip and Speelman repeatedly gave their opinion that he would never speak again.

"I saw that it was necessary to restore the activity of the vital functions, which the cold seemed to have nearly stopped: I was regretting that we had nothing of a stimulating quality to give him, when the recollection of having a bottle of volatile alkali, gave me hopes. I immediately prepared in water as much as half a tea-cupful, of as great a strength as could

safely be administered.

"It would appear by the use which I made of it, that I regarded this medicine as my panacea; for I gave a dose to the three old men; and the rest had so much confidence in it, that they were desirous of taking some also; but, as I thought they could be restored without its aid, I judged it more prudent to reserve it for those who might have the misfortune to be bitten by serpents. Ruiter suffered almost as much as the boy, and was also speechless: but the warmth of the fire at last re-animated him. Hans Lucas's appearance was most miserable, and Berends's countenance was equally sad; but our Bushman Nieuwveld bore the cold much better than his countryman.

"At length the boy was enabled

to move his limbs; he crept nearer to the fire, and in a little time afterwards recovered his speech enough to tell me that the medicine had done him much good. After nursing him for about two hours, I rejoiced to find him sufficiently restored to be able to eat; and, in order to fortify him against the night, I desired him to eat a large quantity of food; a request which is never unseasonable to a Bushman. Cobus, and the rest. revived by degrees; but all the party sat over the fire very melan-

choly and dejected.

"The rain now had ceased for a short time, and the men took the opportunity to cook their dinner, or rather, supper. The apathy or forgetfulness of Hottentots, was here well exemplified: they had taken their own meal without ever once thinking of their master, who, in the mean while, had been too much engaged in attending the boy to think of himself. But being reminded by hunger, I ordered Philip to broil a piece of meat, while I sought for a place where I could pass the night: for it was then evening; the clouds had again sunk upon us, and a violent and heavy rain, which ceased not during the whole night, had just commenced. At a little distance from my men, I prepared a spot, by forming a layer of bushes to keep my baggage and bedding from the ground, which, being on a declivity, was deluged with streams of water. As it would have been folly to spread out my bed in such a situation, I seated myself upon my baggage, and held the umbrella over me. I waited for nearly an hour, expecting supper; but nothing was brought. I at length rose, and on going to the fire, found it extinguished, and all my people people wrapped up in their karosses for the night. My cook, with true Hottentot sang-froid, informed me that the water, which ran down from the higher ground, together with the rain, had washed away the fire before the meat was half broiled. So that, finding this, he had put the chop intended for me upon the bush, and laid down to sleep, without thinking it necessary to put me out of suspense, or to let me know that I was to have no supper that evening.

"I therefore resumed my seat upon the layer of bushes, and covered myself up with my watch-coat. In this situation I passed a miserable night; with a cold rain pouring down from above, and torrents of water running under me. I sometimes fell asleep; but my feet being seized with cramp, I soon awoke again, and had sufficient reason for rejoicing at the

return of daylight."

The oxen having strayed, the Hottentots were sent out to find them, and the following remarkable circumstance occurred:—

--- "One party was sent to explore the mountains; and, as tigers were said to haunt those places, they took the dogs with them for safety. Baboons are also met with here in great numbers; the dogs, unfortunately through a great antipathy to this tribe of animals, pursued a small company, which turned upon them. and defended themselves most effectually. They killed one of the dogs on the spot, by biting it through the jugular artery; and another they severely disabled, by tearing a large piece of flesh out of its side, so that a part of the ribs was laid bare."

"In our way over the plain, we fell in with an ostrich's nest;

if so one may call a bare concavity scratched in the sand, six feet in diameter, surrounded by a trench equally shallow, and without the smallest trace of any materials, such as grass, leaves, or sticks, to give it a resemblance to the The ostrinests of other birds. ches to which it belonged must have been at that time feeding at a great distance, or we should have seen them on so open a The poor birds at their return would find that robbers had visited their home in their absence, for we carried off all their Within this hollow, and quite exposed, lay twenty-five of these gigantic eggs, and in the trench nine more, intended, as the Hottentots observe, as the first food of the twenty-five young Those in the hollow, being designed for incubation, may often prove useless to the traveller, but the others on the outside will always be found fit for eating. In the present instance the whole number were equally good.

"We made our dinner from the ostrich-eggs; each of the Hottentots eating a whole one, although containing, as already mentioned, as much food as twenty-four eggs of the domestic It is therefore not surprising that I found myself unable to accomplish my share of the meal; even with the aid of all the hunger which a long morning's ride had given me. The mode in which they were cooked, was one of great antiquity; for all the Hottentot race, their fathers, and their grandfathers' fathers, as they express themselves, have practised it before them. A small hole the size of a finger was very dexterously made at one end, and having cut a forked stick from the bushes,

they

they introduced it into the egg, by pressing the two prongs close together; then, by twirling the end of the stick between the palms of their hands for a short time, they completely mixed the white and the yolk together. Setting it upon the fire, they continued frequently to turn the stick, until the inside had acquired the proper consistence of a boiled egg. This method recommends itself to a traveller, by its expedition, cleanliness, and simplicity; and by requiring neither pot nor water; the shell answering perfectly the purpose of the first, and the liquid nature of its contents, that of the other."

"As the hunting of a rhinoceros is attended with danger, one of the Hottentots certainly had some reason to be proud, when he had in one day killed two of these formidable animals.

"His account of the affair was, that when they came to the place where the Bushmen expected to find them, the animals had changed their ground; but that it was not long before they discovered no fewer than four, feeding quietly on the bushes in another part of the plain. They advanced towards the creatures, at various distances, according to each man's courage, but Speelman came the first within shot, and wounded one mortally. The other people coming up, fired till it had received seven balls, when it fell dead. He then went in pursuit of the other animals, which had fled over the hills; and having discovered one in the middle of the open plain, approached fortunately unperceived, and brought it down with a single ball: nor did he fail with exultation to remark, that he

had on that day fired off his gum but twice, and at each time had killed a rhinoceros.

"This was not the first rhinoceros which Speelman had shot in the course of his life; and to prove his knowledge of these animals, and to save me the trouble of asking him questions, he voluntarily communicated all that he had learnt by his own experience. Their smell, said he, is so keen and nice, that they know. even at a great distance, whether any man be coming towards them; and on the first suspicion of this, take to flight. Therefore it is only by approaching them against the wind, or from the leeward, that the hunter can ever expect to get within musketshot. Yet, in doing this, he must move silently and cautiously, so as not to make the least noise in the bushes, as he passes through them; otherwise their hearing is so exceedingly quick, that they would instantly take alarm, and move far away to some more undisturbed spot. But the dangerous part of the business is, that when they are thus disturbed. they sometimes become furious. and take it into their head to pursue their enemy: and then, if they once get sight of the hunter, it is impossible for him to escape, unless he possess a degree of coolness and presence of mind, which. in such a case, is not always to be found. Yet, if he will quietly wait till the enraged animal make a run at him, and will then spring suddenly on one side to let it pass, he may gain time enough for reloading his gun, before the rhinoceros get sight of him again; which, fortunately, it does slowly and with difficulty. The knowledge

**ledge** of this imperfection of sight, which is occasioned perhaps by the excessive smallness of the aperture of the eye (its greatest length being only one inch,) in proportion to the bulk of the animal, encourages the hunter to advance without taking much pains to conceal himself: and, by attending to the usual precautions just mentioned, he may safely approach within mus-This creature seems to ket-shot. take as much pleasure in wallowing in the mud, as the hog.

"Our bullets, though cast with an admixture of tin to render them harder, were flattened, or beat out of shape, by striking against the bones; but those which were found lodged in the fleshy part, had preserved their proper form; a fact which shows how little the hardness of this creature's hide corresponds with the vulgar opinion, of its being impenetrable to a musket-hall.

"The meat of the rhinoceros was excellent, and had much of the taste of beef; and although the flesh of this, which was an old animal, was somewhat tough, perhaps on account of being but just killed; yet that of the female, being fatter, proved exceedingly well-tasted and wholesome. The tongue would have been pronounced a dainty treat, even by an epicure. - - -

"The first view of this beast suggested the idea of an enormous hog, to which, besides in its general form, it bears some outward resemblance in the shape of its skull, the smallness of its eyes, and the proportionate size of its ears; but in its shapeless clumsy legs and feet, it more resembles the hippopotamus and elephant. It is, in fact, in many

less obvious particulars, closely allied to all these; and by later naturalists, has been well arranged in the same class with them.

"Its length over the forehead and along the back, from the extremity of the nose to the insertion of the tail, was eleven feet and two inches of English measure; but in a direct line, not more than nine feet three inches. The tail, which at its extremity was complanated, or flattened vertically, measured twenty inches; and the circumference of the largest part of the body, eight feet four inches. On examining its mouth, I found, agreeably to common opinion, no incisive or fore teeth in either jaw: in the upper jaw on each side, were five large grinders, and a smaller one at the back; but in the lower there were six grinders besides the small black tooth."

Honey was also found, and formed a pleasing variety for the palate. It was devoured in the comb, and "some of the Hottentots professed to be equally fond of the larvæ, or young imperfect bees."!!

" In the mean time we halted: this gave us an opportunity of noticing the footmarks of lions. Our Bushmen added their advice to keep close watch over our cattle, as we were now entering a part of the country where those formidable beasts were known to This fact might, withabound. out having seen the footmarks, or without incurring much risk of being mistaken, have been inferred from the great numbers of wild animals just observed: for, where no game is to be seen, there no lions are to be feared; since these, it is evident, can live only in those parts of the country where they can procure daily food. food. Travellers, therefore, who are obliged to depend upon the chase for their support, will consider the dangers and inconvenience of lions, to be more than counterbalanced by the advantage of abundance of game. - - As soon as twilight began to advance, we heard the lions roaring at a distance, and commencing their

nightly prowl. - -:

"In the early part of the night, the jackals at a little distance were yelping around us; and, although they might not have filled the office of 'lion's provider,' vulgarly assigned to them, yet I had no doubt of their having attentively performed the duties of clearing their royal master's table. To prevent him making his supper-room in the midst of our oxen, we kept several fires burning all night."

On the 25th of February, Mr.

B. remarks:

" I now looked in vain for that rosy wild flower-garden which decorated these plains on our former visit to the Asbestos Mountains. It had totally disappeared; and so astonishingly, and almost incredibly rapid, is the progress of vegetation in these regions, with respect to bulbous flowers, that in the short space of ten days the beautiful lilies, then observed just coming into bloom, had completed their flowering, and ripened their seed; flower-stems were dried up, had parted from the roots, and were nearly all blown away."

At a small kraal of Bushmen, which lay on Mr. B.'s route—

"Their chief, or captain, was distinguished in a manner so singular, that my Hottentots were highly diverted at the ridiculous insignia of his rank; and, as they could not clearly understand his proper name, gave him that of Oud Kraai-kop (Old Crow-head), as he wore the head of a crow fixed upon the top of his hair.

"It will be immediately perceived that this mode of ornamenting the head corresponds with the ancient custom of distinguishing men in armour, by some figure placed as the crest of their helmet. Should therefore the science of heraldry ever be introduced among the Bushmen, the family of the Kraaikops would hereafter be distinguished by the crow-head as their crest; but what should be emblazoned on their shield, or whether the field should be gules, or vert, or sable, can only be determined by the learned men of their own tribe. - - -

"The captain of this kraal, having heard of our killing the two rhinoceroses for Kasbi, requested me to stop a day longer, and hunt for him also. But fearing to establish a custom which would hereafter prove extremely inconvenient to us, as it might lead every kraal to expect that we should do the same for them, I thought it most prudent at once to refuse Old Crowhead; though at the same time I promised him a share of whatever we might chance to kill on the road, if he would allow some of his people to accompany us for the purpose of carrying it back. On which he ordered an old man and his son to attend us.

"Both these people being excessively thin, and apparently reduced to that state by want of food, they immediately received from my Hottentots the names of

Ond

Oud and Klein, Magerman, (Old and Young, Lean-man.) It seemed to be an act of charity to take these poor creatures with us, that we might feed them plentifully for

a few days.

7

Ŀ

:

9

i

i

"The Hottentots, and, perhaps, all the tribes of Southern Africa, have a custom of thus giving names to strangers when they are of a different nation from themselves. This arises chiefly from the difficulty which they find, either in pronouncing or in remembering a name to which their ear has never been accustomed, or the meaning of which they do not understand."

23. A View of the past and present State of the Island of Jamaica; with Remarks on the Moral and Physical Condition of the Slaves, and on the Abolition of Slavery in the Colonies. By J. Stewart, late of Jamaica.

The volume sets out with the early history of the island: its discovery by the immortal Columbus, its descent in his family, its devolving to the crown of Spain, and its conquest by the British in the time of Cromwell (A.D. 1655.)\*

At present it appears that the export of sugar has diminished; that of 1819-20 being considerably less than that of 1801-2; while rum is nearly the same; and ginger, pimento, and coffee, have largely increased.—Of the canes grown there are several species, viz. "the common cane of the island, the Bourbon cane, the transparent cane, the ribbon cane, the Batavian or purple cane, and the green stripe cane. The Bourbon and transparent canes are those chiefly cultivated; the ribbon cane is sometimes also planted on account of its hardy nature, being more capable of enduring dry weather than the other two, though it yields much less juice. It is the most beautiful of all the species, being finely variegated with alternate stripes of crimson and pale yellow, whence it takes its name. The Batavian cane is in no estimation; it is the least productive of all the species, and is therefore merely preserved as a variety.

"The wild log, the rat, and the mouse, are the only wild quadrupeds in Jamaica. Formerly, it is said, the woods abounded with a species of the monkey, but none

are now to be found."

• The following particulars will show the progressive improvement of the cultivation, population, and commerce of Jamaica, for the last century and a half:

"In 1673, there were in the island 7768 whites, and 9504 slaves. The chief products were cocoa, indigo, and hides. Sugar had just then been begun to be cultivated.

"In 1722, the island produced 11,000 hogsheads of sugar.

"In 1734, there were 7644 whites, 86,546 slaves, and 76,011 head of cattle, in the island.

"In 1744, there were 9640 whites, 112,428 slaves, and 88,036 head of cattle; and the island produced 35,000 hogsheads of sugar, and 10,000 puncheons of rum.

"In 1768, there were 17,000 whites, 166,914 slaves, and 135,773 head of cattle; and 55,761 hogsheads of sugar, and 15,551 puncheons of rum were produced.

"In 1774, the island produced only 654,700lbs. of coffee; in 1790, 1,783,740 lbs. 
"At present there are in Jamaica about 350,000 slaves, 300,000 head of stock; and the annual average produce may be about 130,000 hogsheads of sugar, 60,000 puncheons of rum, and 18,000,000lbs. of coffee, &c.--

"In return for its commodities, Jamaica receives from Great Britain an annual supply of almost all her manufactures. The exclusive right which she claims of supplying

The hog is occasionally hunted for his flesh, and is large and flerce; but the more diminutive animal next mentioned, occupies a

more important place.

"In no country is there a creature so destructive of property as the rat is in Jamaica; their ravages are inconceivable. One year with another, it is supposed that they destroy at least about a twentieth part of the sugar-canes throughout the island, amounting to little short of 200,000l. currency per The sugar-cane is their annum. favourite food; but they also prey upon the Indian corn, on all the fruits that are accessible to them, and on many of the roots. idea will be formed of the immense swarms of those destructive animals that infest this island, from the fact, that on a single plantation thirty thousand were destroyed in one year. Traps of various kinds are set to catch them, poison is resorted to, and terriers, and sometimes ferrets are employed to explore their haunts and root them out: still, however, their numbers remain undiminished, as far at least as can be judged by the ravages they commit. They are of a much larger size than the European rat, especially that kind of them called by the negroes racoons. On the experiment being tried of putting one of these and a cat together, the latter declined attacking it."

The musquitos are torments also in their way. "When very numerous, a smoke is made in the houses, by which they are

driven away. To guard against their annoyance in the night, the beds are hung with what are called musquito-nets, made of thin gause. It is remarkable that the negroes, who cannot always afford this nocturnal defence, get into a mechanical habit of driving away these troublesome visitors, even while apparently wrapt in a profound sleep; the quick feeling of pain seemingly occasioning this unconscious movement of the hands."

"Nearly a hundred different species of sea and river fish might be enumerated that are caught and used by the inhabitants. are times, however, when it is dangerous to eat of two or three kinds: the baracoota and the sprat, in particular, are sometimes highly deleterious, owing, it is supposed, to their feeding on some poisonous substance in the ocean, of the nature of copperas. To guard against this danger, a silver spoon is put into the vessel in which the fish is boiled; if it comes out of a dusky greenish colour, the fish is unsound; if not, it may be safely

"The conger-eel is both voracious and venomous in its bite; it is from five to seven feet in length, and of proportionable thickness: it may well be termed a sea-snake; for, in its head, eyes, and teeth, it much resembles that reptile. It attacks persons in the water, and though the wound it inflicts is seldom deep, it is exceedingly difficult of cure.--

supplying this and the other islands with her products is one important source of her commercial and manufacturing prosperity. The annual amount of British manufactures imported into this island alone is upwards of two millions. The imports from other parts (of lumber, provisions, cattle, &c.) amount to nearly a million currency. - - -

"The annual exports to Great Britain and Ireland may amount, one year with another, to about five millions; and those to other parts to about 400,0001."

"There

--- "There are three species of snake in Jamaica, viz. the yellow, the black, and the brown snake, the last being the smallest of the three. None of these are venomous in their bite, at least to a serious degree; instances having happened of negroes having been bitten by them without suffering any other consequence than a temporary pain, inflammation, and swelling of the part, and sometimes a slight degree of fever; to remove which, all that is necessary is a fomentation of the part with sweet oil, or warm lime-juice, and extracting the tooth of the animal if it has been left in the flesh. is alleged by some that the bite of the brown snake is mortal; but no instance ever happened of its bite having produced death. Some of the yellow snakes are from ten to twelve feet long, but the general length is from six to eight. animal is at times exceedingly indolent and inoffensive; when gorged with its periodical quantum of food, and when coiled up and reposing itself, it will permit a person to come up and touch it, without making an effort to move. Nay, some of the African negroes have the boldness to stand upon them for a short time while in this supine state: they have a strange notion that this operation is a sovereign remedy for the bone-ache —a painful disease to which they The animal, under are subject. the pain of this extraordinary pressure, writhes itself round, and soon dislodges the intruder, but without any active exertion of resentment, and, on the removal of the annoyance, it recomposes itself to rest. But, when hungry and in search of prey, and during the season of pairing, it is more active and

irasoible; but particularly at the latter time, when it is not safe to disturb it. The strength of this animal is incredible; the united exertions of four or five able-bodied negroes cannot draw one of large size from a place where it has got any hold; so that one cannot, from this, altogether discredit what is told of the monstrous serpents of thirty feet long in India and Africa, which, it is said, have been known to strangle the buffalo and the tiger. There is something in the very sight of a snake revolting to all other animals. We are startled if one unexpectedly comes in our way, though we may be aware there is no danger in his bite: horses and oxen start and snort if they see one near them, and dogs bark at them, but carefully keep aloof while they are in an attitude of defence. The black snake, when assailed by a dog, generally darts at his eyes; by which means the terriers, which never come in view of them without showing their antipathy, very frequently become blind. The domestic cat is terrified at the sight of the smallest-sized snake, and will not face it; though the wild cat, more fierce and daring, will probably not shun the encounter. A gentleman, a surveyor by profession, in traversing the woods, one day found the skeleton of a snake entwined round that of a cat; they had probably been fighting, and perished together in the conflict."

"The white inhabitants of Jamaica consist of creoles, or natives of the country, and Europeans. There may be about three of the former to two of the latter. Formerly there was a marked difference in the habits, manners, and

mode

mode of life of those two classes, but that no longer generally exists. The primitive creolian customs and manners are fast disappearing, being superseded by the more polished manners of European life. Even within the last fifteen or twenty years a very considerable improvement has taken place in the state of society here. - - -

"There are obstacles, however, in this country, which must necessarily operate to keep down the state of society far below that improvement of which it would otherwise be capable. These partly grow out of and are inseparably connected with a state of slavery, but more especially arise from the gross immorality which too generally prevails among all ranks."

"Even if slavery and its attendant abuses did not exist here, no great additional improvement in the state of society could be expected, while the most gross and open licentiousness continues, as at present, to prevail among all ranks of the whites. - - - Every unmarried white man, and of every class, has his black or his brown mistress, with whom he lives openly; and of so little consequence is this thought, that his white female friends and relations think it no breach of decorum to visit his house, partake of his hospitality, fondle his children, and converse with his housekeeper - as if that conduct, which they regarded as disgraceful in their own class, was not so in the female of colour. ---But the most striking proof of the low estimate of moral and religious obligation here is the fact, that the man who lives in open adultery,--that is, who keeps his brown or black mistress, in the very face of his wife and family and of the com-

munity, has generally as much outward respect shown him, and is as much countenanced, visited. and received into company, especially if he be a man of some weight and influence in the community, as if he had been guilty of no breach of decency or dereliction of moral duty! This profligacy is, however, less common than it was formerly; for among the old creoles, a brown or sable favourite, and sometimes even a harem of these ladies, was considered as an indispensable appendage to the establishment of a married man. - - -

" If a gentleman pays his addresses to a lady, it is not thought necessary, as a homage to her delicacy, to get rid, à priori, of his illicit establishment, nor is the lady so unreasonable as to expect such a sacrifice; the brown lady remains in the house till within a few days of the marriage, and, if she is of an accommodating disposition, even assists in making preparations for the reception of the bride; in which case there may be a tolerable good understanding between them, and the wife may even condescend to take in good part the occasional calls, inquiries, and proffered services of the ex-favourite, and make suitable returns of kindness to her and her chil-Nothing is more common than for the brown mistress of a white man to apply to a respectable married lady to become godmother to her female infant, —a request which is not often refused, though the sponsor must be well aware that this child is destined, from the way in which she is brought up, to follow the footsteps of her mother. But it is thought to be only a form, and the kindhearted white lady could hardly refuse

refuse so slight a favour to a decent, well-behaved brown woman, who would consider such refusal as a most grievous affront, for they do not consider the sponsorship of one of their own class as at all desirable or creditable.

نائ

::

.

...

نز

í.

.

jr.

.

:

•

:

"These semi-barbarous customs and practices, as they may well be called, will sufficiently show that this is not the happiest country in the world for a virtuous and welleducated female."

"The white females of the West Indies are generally rather of a more slender form than the European women. Their complexion, which they are peculiarly careful to preserve, is either a pure white or brunette, with but little or none of the bloom of the rose, which, to a stranger, has rather a sickly appearance at first, though that impression gradually wears off. Their features are sweet and regulartheir eyes rather expressive than sparkling—their voices soft and pleasing—and their whole air and looks tender, gentle, and feminine. With the appearance of languor and indolence, they are active and animated on occasion, particularly when dancing, an amusement of which they are particularly fond, and in which they display a natural ease, gracefulness, and agility, which surprise and delight a They are fond of mustranger. sic, and there are few who have not an intuitive taste for it, and fine voices. They are accused of excessive indolence; and outré examples of this are given by those whose object is to exhibit them to ridicule. These exaggerations, like all others of a national description, savour more of caricature than truth. The heat of the climate, joined to the still habits

of a sedentary life, naturally beget a languor, listlessness, and disposition to self-indulgence, to which the females of more northern climates are strangers. The daily loll in bed, before dinner, is so gratifying a relaxation, that it has become almost as necessary as their

nightly repose.

"To sum up, in few words, the character of the creole ladies, -they are so excessively fond of pleasure and amusements, that they would be glad if the whole texture of human life were formed of nothing else; balls in particular are their great delight: they are averse to whatever requires much mental or bodily exertion, dancing excepted; reading they do not care much about, except to fill up an idle hour; and diligence, industry, and economy, cannot be said to be among the number of their virtues."

Such are the possessors and habits of an island, of the European adventurers to which "by far the greater number—certainly not less than four-fifths—fall victims to disease before they have realized a sufficiency; while only a favoured few (perhaps not more than five or six in a hundred) ever return to their native country with a fortune, or competency."

"While the number of the whites remains stationary, or nearly so, the people of colour are rapidly increasing. In 1788 it was computed that there were 10,000 free people of colour in the island; there are now upwards of three times that number. That a population should be trebled in thirtyfour years, by natural increase within itself, were physically impossible; but this vast increase arises out of the whole mass of

the population, white, black, and It is probable that ninebrown. teen-twentieths of the white males have their brown or black mistresses, either free or otherwise, by whom they generally have children, who, if born slaves, are often manumitted. This will account for the vast increase above stated. A respectable clergyman in the island assured the author, some years ago, that he usually had occasion to baptize about fifteen brown children for one white child. The male part of this population may be divided into three classes—namely, the offspring of men of fortune and station (some of the most distinguished in the island have families of this class,) who are sent to Great Britain to be liberally educated, and are destined to inherit independent fortunes—the offspring of men in moderate circumstances, who generally give them a plain education, and leave the bulk of their property among them at their death-and, lastly, the offspring of men who either have not the means or the inclination This last is to provide for them. probably the most numerous class: many of them live in idleness and vice, a burden to themselves and to the community. Into the hands of the first and second class much of the property of the country is fast falling.—So that there can be little doubt that the time is not far distant when the free people of colour, feeling their own weight in numbers, property, and information, will not rest content with any qualifications short of what the whites enjoy; nor will the latter be in a condition to refuse this boon. Though this equalization, and

blending as it were, of the two classes, be regarded by the whites as a great political evil, it will nevertheless unquestionably be brought about, at no distant period, through their own agency. A change in the morals and manners of the latter—not feeble and partial laws and regulations—can alone secure the respect and obedience of this growing class to their dominion."

The author on the other hand, indicates some excellent results from the abolition of the Slave Trade; of which the increase of population, and the bettered condition of the slaves, are not the At the same least prominent. time he complains of the injustice shown towards the colonists by Mr. Wilberforce and the friends of the African Institution; who are prone to misrepresent them, and blacken their characters, in order to support their own opinions and attain their own objects. He considers the extinction of slavery as devoutly to be wished; but contends that the negroes must be gradually prepared for this boon, that they are utterly unfit for it now, that it must be the work of diligence, caution, and time, and that premature haste would bring numberless evils upon the slaves themselves, and ruin upon the West India Colonies-a stake of the value of one hundred millions of money, for property embarked under the guarantee of British laws! Treating on this point, Mr. S. cursorily adverts to the diversity of character among the negro tribes.

"The Eboe is crafty, artful, disputative in driving a bargain, and suspicious of being over-reached by those with whem

he deals; but withal, patient, industrious, saving, and tractable. The Coromantee is, on the contrary, fierce, violent, and revengeful under injury and provocation; but hardy, laborious, and manageable under mild and just treatment. This tribe has generally been at the head of all insurrections, and was the original parent-stock of the Maroons. The Congo, Papaw, Chamba, Mandingo, &c. are of a more mild and peaceable disposition than the Coromantee, but less industrious and provident than the Eboe. The Mandingoes are a sort of Mahomedans, though they are too ignorant to understand any thing of the Alcoran, or of the nature of their religion: some of them, however, can scrawl a few rude Arabic characters, but without understanding or being able to explain much of their meaning. Probably they are scraps from the Alcoran which they have been taught by their imans, or priests. The creole negroes are the descendants of the Africans, and may be said to possess in common the mingled dispositions of their parents or ancestors. they pretend to a great superiority in intellect and manners over the Africans—boast of their good fortune in being born creoles,and the farther they are removed from the African blood, the more they pride themselves thereon.

"The passions and affections of the negroes, not being under the control of reason or religion, sometimes break out with frightful violence; rage, revenge, grief, jealousy, have often been productive of terrible catastrophes; but it is only in their intercourse with each other that this impetuosity

prevails; they are so far subdued by a habitual awe of the whites as to have a mastery over their passions, and, if ill treated, they brood in silence over their wrongs, watching for a favourable opportunity of revenge. - - -

"Numerous instances of the gratitude and attachment of negro slaves towards their masters have come within the author's knowledge; though he has also had occasion to witness the most hardened ingratitude in individuals of this race, not only to their masters and their fellowslaves, but even to their parents, when age and decrepitude had rendered their kindness and assistance doubly necessary and welcome. Filial gratitude is not so powerful an affection as parental love, and among the negro race this

is often strikingly exemplified. "Very affecting scenes often occurred of negro sales during the existence of the slave - trade. Groups of slaves were seen with their arms entwined round each other's necks, waiting, with sad and anxious looks, the expected moment of separation. they were sisters and friendsperhaps a mother and her children—perhaps a husband and wife. In vain was the endeavour to separate them — they clung closer together, they wept, they shrieked piteously, and, if forcibly torn asunder, the buyer had generally cause to regret his inhumanity; despair often seized on the miserable creatures, and they either sunk into an utter despondency, or put a period to their lives.

"Though scenes of this kind often occurred, it is yet too true that the unnatural African father, prompted by the love of lucre,

will sometimes sell his children, the children trepan their parent, and one friend betray another! This is no groundless allegation; the author has often heard recitals of this savage conduct from their own mouths. He was once an eve-witness of a curious scene arising from a circumstance of this nature. A negro, who had been some years in the country, happening one day to meet an elderly slave who had just been purchased from a slave-trader recently arrived, he recognised him as his father—who, it seems, had sold him to the Europeans. Without explanation or preface, he addressed to him a speech, in his country dialect, which he thus translated to the bystanders :-' So, you old rogue, dem catch you at last—no—Buckra do good—you no care for your pickininnie (child) but they will make you feel work pinch too.'

"The negroes, though so rude and ignorant in their savage state, have a natural shrewdness and genius, which is doubtless susceptible of culture and improve-

ment. - - -

"Their sayings often convey much force and meaning, and would, if clothed in a more courtly dress, make no despicable figure even among those precepts of wisdom which are ascribed to When they wish wiser nations. to imply that a peaceable man is often wise and provident in his conduct, they say, 'Softly water run deep; when they would express the oblivion and disregard which follows them after death, they say, 'When man dead grass grow at him door; and when they would express the humility which is the

usual accompaniment of poverty, they say, ' Poor man never vex.' - -

"A master of an African trader. travelling in Jamaica, and not knowing his way, inquired of a negro, whom he met, the road to Mr. -'s house. The negro recognising him to be the captain of the ship in which he had been brought from his native country, eyed him with a look of ineffable contempt, without making any reply: on the question being reiterated, he replied with much indignation, as conceiving himself jested with by one who had injured him so deeply,—'You want for make fool of me-no?-you can find pass go in a Guinea country bring me come here, but you can't find pass go in a massa house.' - - -

"Some tribes are far more rational than others in their religious opinions. By intercourse with each other, and with the Europeans, the absurdity of many of their native superstitions is gradually laid aside—at least in practice. One opinion they all agree in, and that is the expectation that, after death, they shall first return to their native country, and enjoy again the society of kindred and friends, from whom they have been torn away in an evil hour. This idea, combined with their terrors, used to prompt numbers, on their first arrival, to acts of suicide."

24. Researches in the South of Ireland. By T. Crofton Croker. London 1824.

"The present Irish character is a compound of strange and apparent inconsistencies, where vices and virtues are so unhap-

pily

pily blended that it is difficult to distinguish or separate Hasty in forming opinions and projects, tardy in carrying them into effect, they are often relinquished before they have arrived at maturity, and are abandoned for others as vague and indefinite. An Irishman is the sport of his feelings; with passions the most violent and sensitive, he is alternately the child of despondency or of levity; his joy or his grief has no medium; he loves or he hates, and hurried away by the ardent stream of a heated fancy, naturally enthusiastic, he is guilty of a thousand absurdities. These extremes of temperament Giraldus Cambrensis has correctly depicted when he says, 'When they (the Irish) be bad, you shall nowhere meet with worse; if they be good, you can hardly find better.' With a mind inexhaustible in expedient to defeat difficulties and act as a substitute for the conveniencies of life which poverty denies, the peasant is lively in intellect, ardent in disposition, and robust in frame; nor does he readily despond under disaster, or yield to obstruction; but moves forward in his rugged course with elevated crest and a warm heart: with a love of combat and of inebriation. he is fond of excitement and amusement of any nature.

"The virtues of patience, of prudence, and industry, seldom are included in the composition of an Irishman; he projects gigantic schemes, but wants perseverance to realise any work of magnitude: his conceptions are grand and vivid, but his execution is feeble and indolent: he is witty and imprudent, and will dissipate the 1823.

hard earnings of to-day, regardless of to-morrow: an appeal made to his heart is seldom unsuccessful, and he is generous with an uninquiring and profuse liberality. Such is an outline of the Irish character, in which there is more to call forth a momentary tribute of admiration, than to create a fixed and steady esteem.

"In the wild parts of Ireland the pictorial traveller will receive little assistance in his researches from the peasantry, and must rely on his own exertions and enterprise for the attainment of his object. Should he happen to have a slight knowledge of the Irish language, or can get the names of places translated to him, they will often convey a clearer and more correct idea of the spot than can be extorted by dint of cross-examination — 'Conveniunt rebus nomina sæpe suis.'

"Sometimes our united efforts to extort information met with no better success than the following dialogue:—

"'Pray is this the nearest road

"' Is it to —— you are going? fait and that's not the nearest road—being 'tis no road at all.'

"' Then had I better go you

"' Och! indeed and I wouldn't advise your going that way at all. 'Tis few people goes that way, for there's a big black dog there, and he'll ate you up entirely.'

"'Which way then can I go?'

"' Fait! and the best way you'd go is just to be staying where you are.'

"The lower classes are generally unwilling to serve as guides in the wild parts of the country, de-

clining the offers made them for such service with all that indifference and quiet humour which Miss Edgeworth so admirably delineates; and the difficulty of obtaining assistance appears to increase in proportion with the necessity of the demand.'

"' Och! I'd have no objection in life to go wid your honour if supposing I could just leave my troat at home,' is no uncommon reply to your request, and is intended to express a doubt as to the

safety of the expedition."

"'Did you give the horses a feed of oats at the village where we stopped to sketch?' inquired one of my fellow-travellers of the driver, who for the last three or four miles had with much exertion urged on the jaded hacks.

"' I did not, your honour,' was his reply; 'but sure and they know I promised them a good one at

Limerick.'

"Nor is this instance of pretended understanding between man and horse singular. Riding once in company with a poor farmer from Cork to Mallow, I advised him to quicken the pace of his steed, as the evening was closing in, and the lurid appearance of the sky foreboded a storm.

"Sure then that I would with the greatest pleasure in life for the honour I have out of your company, Sir; but I promised the baste to let him walk, and I never would belie myself to any one, much less to a poor creature that carries me—for, says the baste to me, I'm tired, as good right I have, and I'll not go a step faster—and you won't make me—I scorn it, says I, so take your own way."

"A verbatim dialogue on an

Irish break-down happily characterises that accident: the scene a bleak mountain, and the time, the return of the driver with another chaise from the nearest station which afforded one—seven miles distant.

"' Is the carriage you have

brought us safe?'

(One of the travellers attempts

to get in.)

"' Oh, never fear, Sir; wait till I just bale out the water and put a little sop of hay in the bottom—and sure now and 'tis a queer thing that the ould black chaise should play such a trick, and it has gone this road eleven years and never broke down afore. But no wonder, poor cratur, the turnpike people get money enough for mending the roads, and had luck to the bit of it they mend, but put it all in their pockets.'

" What, the road?

"' Noe, your honour, the money."

There is a good account of Limerick, but we can only take one inscription from its Cathedral:

"MEMENTO MORY
HERE LIETH LITTLE SAMUELL
BARINGTON THAT GREAT UNDER
TAKER, OF FAMOUS CITTE
CLOCK AND CHIME MAKER
HE MADE HIS ONE TIME GOS
EARLY AND LATTER. BUT HOW
HE IS RETURNED TO GOD HE
CREATOR.

THE 19 OF NOVEMBER THEN DE SCRET AND FOR HIS MEMORY THIS HERE IS PLEAST BY HIS SOW BEN 1693."

The superstitions of Ireland do not differ very materially from those of Scotland: the following however, may be read with gratification:

"The circular intrenchments

and barrows, known by the name of Danish forts, in Ireland, are pointed out as the abode of fairy communities; and to disturb their habitation, in other words to dig, or plough up a rath or fort, whose construction the superstitious natives ascribe to the labour and ingenuity of the 'good people,' is considered as unlucky and entailing some severe disaster on the violator and his kindred. industrious peasant, who purchased a farm in the neighbourhood of Mallow, from a near relative of mine, commenced his improvements by building upon it a good stone house, together with a lime-kiln. Soon after, he waited on the proprietor, to state the trouble he was come to by reason of the old fort, the fairies not approving of his having placed the lime-kiln so near their dwelling;--he had lost his sow with nine bonniveens (sucking pigs), his horse fell into a quarry and was killed, and three of his sheep died, 'all through the means of the fairies.' Though the lime-kiln had cost him five guineas, he declared he would never burn another stone in it, but take it down, without delay, and build one away from the fort, saying he was wrong in putting that kiln in the way of the 'good people,' who were thus obliged to go out of their usual track. The back door of his house unfortunately also faced the same fort; but this offence was obviated by almost closing it up, leaving only a small hole at the top, to allow the good people free Passage, should they require it. In these raths, fairies are represented as holding their festive meetings, and entering into all the fantastic and wanton mirth

that music and glittering banquets are capable of inspiring. A fairy chieftain, of much local celebrity, named Knop, is supposed to hold his court in a rath, on the road-side between Cork and Youghall, where often travellers, unacquainted with the country, have been led astray by the appearance of lights, and by alluring sounds proceeding from within: but when

"The village cock gave note of day, Up sprang in haste the airy throng; The word went round, 'Away! away!'

The night is short, the way is long"—and the delicious viands change into carrion. The crystal goblets become rugged pebbles, and the whole furniture of the feast undergoes a similar metamorphosis.

"An eddy of dust, raised by the wind, is attributed to the fairies journeying from one of their haunts to another; on perceiving which, the peasant will obsequiously doff his hat, muttering, God speed ye, God speed ye, gentlemen; and returns it to his head, with the remark, 'Good manners are no burthen,' as an apology for the motive, which he is ashamed to acknowledge. Should he, however, instead of such friendly greeting, repeat any short prayer, or devoutly cross himself, using a religious response, the fairy journey is interrupted, and if any mortals are in their train, the charm by which they were detained is broken, and they are restored to human society. On these occasions, the production of a blackhafted knife is considered as extremely potent in dissolving the This weapon is believed to be effective not only against fairy incantation, but also against

any supernatural being; and accounts of many twilight rencontres between shadowy forms and mortals are related, to establish its power, gouts of blood or jelly being found in the morning where the vision had appeared. A respectable farmer has been pointed out to me, whose familiar appellation in Irish was 'Kill the Devil,' from the report of his having quelled, by means of a black-hafted knife, a phantom that long had haunted him."

"Cluricaune or Leprehaune is the name given to the Irish Puck. The character of this goblin is a compound of that of the Scotch Brownie and the English Robin Goodfellow. He is depicted (for engraved portraits of the Irish Leprehaune are in existence) as a small and withered old man, completely equipped in the costume of a cobbler, and employed in repairing a shoe. A paragraph recently appeared in a Kilkenny paper, stating that a labourer, returning home in the dusk of the evening, discovered a Leprehaune at work, from whom he bore away the shoe which he was mending: as a proof of the veracity of his story it was further stated, that the shoe lay for the inspection of the curious at the newspaper The most prominent feature in the vulgar creed respecting the Leprehaune is, his being the possessor of a purse supposed to be, like that of Fortunatus, inexhaustible; and many persons, who have surprised one of these fairies occupied in shoe-making, have endeavoured to compel him to deliver it: this he has ingeniously avoided, averting the eye of his antagonist by some stratagem, when he disappears, which it seems he has not the power of doing as long as any person's gazeis fixed upon him."

"On the whole, from what may be collected, the present state of Irish superstition closely resembles that of England during the age of Elizabeth; a strong proof of the correct measurement of those who have stated a space of two centuries to exist between the relative degree of popular knowledge and civilization attained by the sister kingdom."

"The belief in witches is not so strong as in other parts of the British empire; but this is compensated by greater bigotry in more serious respects. At Youghall, Mr. C. states,

--- "The bigotry of the Protestants against their Roman Catholic brethren in those towns under its influence reached a degree of marked violence unknown in any other part of the kingdom, and which feeling is not entirely eradicated at the present hour; I need only instance the town of Bandon, where, over the principal gate, an inscription once stated that

## Jew, Turk, or Atheist May enter here But not a Papist.\*

"At Youghall it was forbidden, in 1678, and remains on record, that a Papist should buy or batter any thing in the public market; and the manuscript annals of the town, from which I have been

<sup>&</sup>quot;The following severe reply to this offensive inscription is said to have caused its removal:

Whoever wrote this, wrote it well, For the same is written on the gates of Hell.'

favoured with extracts, afford evidence of the illiberality of its corporation towards those of the Catholic persuasion; nor is it without regret that I add, the enactments quoted were made during the mayoralties of ancestors of my own.

"In 1696, it was ordered that any person but a Protestant free-man, presuming to go to the mayor's feast, should pay five shillings, or be set in the stocks."

1702. Several Papists, who had

been admitted freemen, were disfranched, and it was ordered that no Papist should be made free again.

" 1744. Gregory Grimes, victualler, was disfranched, for having

a Popish wife.

"I am tempted to notice, as curiosities, two other enactments of the same body. In the years 1680 and 1700, a cook and a barber were made freemen, on condition that they should severally dress the mayor's feasts, and shave the corporation, gratis."

Our last quotation relates to that very marked feature in the Irish character—the regard of the natives for their funeral cere-

monies:

" 'An easy death and a fine funeral ' is a proverbial benediction amongst the lower orders in Ireland. Throughout life the peasant is accustomed to regard the manner and place of his interment as matters of the greatest importance; 'to be decently put in the earth, along with his own people,' is the wish most frequently and fervently expressed by When advanced in life, it is usual, particularly with those who are destitute and friendless, to deny themselves the common

necessaries of life, and to hoard up every trifle they can collect, for the expenses of their wake and Looking forward funeral. their death as to a gala given by them to their acquaintances, every possible preparation is made for rendering it, as they consider, 'creditable ;' their shroud and burial dress are often provided many years before they are wanted: nor will the owners use these garments whilst living, though existing in the most abject state of wretchedness and rags. not unusual to see even the tombstone in readiness, and leaning against the cabin wall, a perpetual 'memento mori' that must meet the eye of its possessor every time he crosses his threshold.

"There is evidently a constitutional difference in the composition of the English and Irish peasant; but this peculiarity may be more satisfactorily accounted for by the prevailing belief with the latter of a future state being a material one, and subject to wants even more urgent than those of this life: under this impression, shoes, considered a luxury quite unworthy a thought, are believed almost indispensable after death, when it is supposed much walking has to be performed, probably through rough roads and inclement weather. The superstition evidently proceeds from the tenet of purgatory or qualification for by the Romish heaven, held Church; and on this particular, the general belief of the Irish peasantry is somewhat at variance with the representations of their pastors: the priest describes it as a place of fire, but the people imagine it to be a vast and dreary extent, strewed with sharp stones

and abounding in thorns and brambles.

"The influence of this doctrine affects rich and poor, according to their circumstances, and is a most valuable one, for I have been assured the emolument it yields to the Catholic church of Ireland, by a late limited calculation, exceeds 650,000l. per annum.

"The attachment manifested towards particular burial - places arises from the same cause; and the anxiety amongst the vulgar to be interred with their deceased relatives, bestows even on death a

feeling of social interest.

"A remarkable instance occurred not long since. An old beggar woman, who died near the city of Cork, requested that her body might be deposited in White Church burial - ground. Her daughter, who was without the means to obtain a hearse or any other mode of conveyance, determined herself to underfake the task, and, having procured a rope, she fastened the coffin on her back, and, after a tedious journey of more than ten miles, fulfilled her mother's request."

"Separate interests (as in the case of marriage) often cause disputes at funerals; and as no acknowledged rule exists in such cases, a battle usually ends the dissension, and the corpse is borne away in triumph by the victorious party to a cemetery perhaps twenty miles distant from that ori-

ginally intended."

"I remember once overhearing a contest between a poor man and his wife, respecting the burial of their infant. The woman wished to have the child laid near some of her own relations, which the husband strongly opposed, concluding her attachment to her

friends was superior to her love for him; but he was soon convinced by his wife's argument, that as her sister had died in childbirth only a few days previous, she would afford their poor infant suck, which nourishment it might not have if buried elsewhere.

" Another instance of similar superstition occurred in the case of a woman, who presented several beggars with a loaf and porringer, that her deceased child might not want a porringer or bread in the next world. accounted for her knowledge of the wants of an after-state, by saying that a very good man, who used to have occasional trances, in which it was known his soul left his body and became familiar with disembodied spirits, returning to its former habitation after a short absence, told her, on his recovery from one of these fits, that childying at an early age, whose parents' neglect deprived them of the use of a porringer, were obliged to lap milk out of their hands; whilst others, who were provided in life with one, had a similar article prepared for their comfort in a future state; and 'now,' continued the woman, as she bestowed her last loaf and porringer on a mendicant, 'my mind is eased of its burthen, and my poor child is as happy as the best of them."

Narrative of an Ascent to the summit of Mont Blanc, August 18, 1822. By Frederick Clissold, Esq.

Mr. Clissold, having procured proper guides, obtained a pair of peculiar snow-shoes fitted with about twenty pyramidal broad-based steel spikes,

spikes, about one third of an inch long, and screwed deeply into thick soles. It was intimated that easier play might be given to the foot, if the shoes were covered with two soles; the first extending the whole length, the second covering the hollow of the foot. He also provided himself with a wide brimmed straw-hat, as a shelter from the rave of the sun : two veils, one black and the other green; and a plaster of Burgundy-pitch to be placed upon the chest and between the shoulders. to desend the lungs: provisions in sacks for three days, consisting of wine, spirits, vinegar, several kinds of meat, and other necessaries; ropes of ten or twelve feet long, for the purpose of tying the adventurers together, when they were to pass over hazardous ground; a baton or pole for each about six feet long, armed at the end with an iron-spike; and an axe to cut steps in the ice or snow.

1

,

He started on the night of the 18th August, at half-past ten o'clock with six guides: there being no moon, they took a lantern. They reached the Aiguilles du Midi at half-past three in the morning, where they rested: at four they departed, and put on their spiked-shoes and crampons. They next arrived upon " a long plain of ice, intersected with crevasses, which ran in parallel directions, and at right angles with the straight line of ascent. These chasms were seldom more than ten feet wide; but varied considerably in their depths, which are generally proportioned to those of the ice; the depths of the ice varying as the irregularity of the surface over which it runs.

crevasses are supposed to be, in some places, several hundred feet deep; and their sides generally assumed the light blue tints of the sky."

" Fronting rose the summit of Mont Blanc, more than 7000 feet above the height upon which they stood; while on their left, a range of numerous Aiguilles soared above them more than 4000 feet. stretching eastward from below the summit, with outlines mellow-. ed into aërial softness. Sometimes they presented fissured declivities, clothed with glittering mantles of ice; and sometimes clusters of sun-gilt spires, pinzacled on roofs sparkling with snow. On their right, and of about the same. height with the Aiguilles, rose the white Dôme du Gouti, which derives its name from its form, and is joined to the western shoulder of the summit by a Nearly in rising narrow ridge. the midst of the snowy vale, between the Dôme and the Aiguilles, was seen a line of rocks, called the Grands Mûlets; the nearest and highest of which is elevated about 300 feet above its surrounding glaciers. This vale rose at an angle of 30 deg., and was crossed by three successive plateaus, elevated one above the other. at right angles with our line of ascent: the highest, which is also the largest, is called the grand plateau; from which abruptly rises the summit of Mont Blanc. to an elevation of about 3000 feet, appearing at a distance inaccessible."

Mr. Clissold shortly afterwards
"came to a perfect column or
tower of smooth blue shining ice,
pierced, as it were, with elegant
lancet windows, supporting an
overhanging

overhanging roof, and almost leaning over its centre of gravity. was about five-and-thirty feet high, and four in diameter: it had all the appearance of being artificial."-Next, he "caught a glance of an icy forest of miniature pinnacles and spires, still freezing in the morning air. However elegantly these fairy structures may be formed, they successively dissolve in the warmer atmosphere; and being hardened again by the nightly frosts, are perpetually starting into new objects of wonder."

" As they approached the line of congelation, they passed through labyrinths of most irregular mas-Their path was seldom seen more than a few yards before them, and sometimes appeared to be suddenly lost, leaving them locked up as it were in chambers of ice and congealed snow. or two of the guides, mounting the most elevated pinnacles, explored the direction of their road, while the rest of the party awaited their call. The most perilous office of the guides is to make these surveys."

" At seven they reached the usual resting-place, and at nine they put on their veils and set out to enter the regions of eternal The thermometer in the sun was then 70. As the day advanced they heard many avalanches falling from the rocks: the heat was oppressive; and they were much harassed with thirst. They found great relief from wine or vinegar mixed with the thawed The thermometer in the sun was still at 70; the snow was so hard that steps were cut in it with the axe for many hundred

yards. After some hundred feet of ascent, they were opposed by a parapet of congealed snow, about eight feet high, and of the hardness of ice. This they scaled by means of steps cut as before, and in the vicinity found a dead bee."

" It was nearly six o'clock before they came in view of the Roche Rouge, a rock on the eastern side of Mont Blanc, and 800 ft. below its summit; they therefore deferred ascending until the morning. At eight o'clock the thermometer was at 26 deg.; during the night it had fallen to about 18 deg. They reached the summit the next morning at half-past five The thermometer soon o'clock. rose again to 70 deg. The summit presented a much larger area than the principal guide had ever seen, although it was his sixth ascent. It is supposed, therefore, that a portion of the previous altitude of the mountain had fallen. The plain of the summit was triangular, and almost equilateral; declining from its north side, which was nearly horizontal, parallel to, and facing the valley of Chamouni; the distance from the middle of this side to the opposite angle being not less than 5 or 600 feet. The plain declined from the horizon about 200 feet, and was intersected by a fissure, which ran parallel and near to the side next Chamouni, presenting in appearance the form of a crevasse.

Mr. Clissold observes of the sublimity of the prospect: "The air was perfectly still; the sky of a deep cerulean tint; and the contrast of this richness and solemnity of shade magnificently increased the splendour of the sun. A thin hazy circle skirted the horizon,

dimming

dimming all objects in the extreme distance; or, it was thought, the Mediterranean might have been discerned. All distant lowland, as well as the waters of the Genevan Lake, were slightly obscured; but the extreme range of the Alps rose clearly in view; from which Mount Rosa ' upheaved its vastness' preeminent in majesty and splendour. this wildly varied immensity, the distant Shreckhorn dwindled into a diminutive peak; while, of all the magnificence which was stretched around us, the sublimest spectacle was presented by the monarch upon whose crown we stood: for over a tract of seven miles in breadth and twenty-five in length, were seen crowded together in confused perspective, hundreds of rifted pyramids, boldly towering over tremendous and most resplendent glaciers: but a range of Aiguilles, upon the southern side of the mountain, rose with a still more subduing sublimity, some of them soaring 7000 feet almost perpendicularly above the vale, and refulgent with vast accumulations of ice and snow."

ť.

Ç.

ď

.

í

They remained upon the summit three hours, and commenced their descent at half-past eight; and at half-past five descended beyond the ice: at half-past seven they reached the Priory, after an absence of two nights and two days. The ascent occupied twenty-four hours; the descent eleven.

26. Reliquiæ Dilucianæ: or, Observations on the Organic Remains contained in Caves, Fissures, and Dilucial Gravel, and on other Geological Phenomena, attesting the Action of an Universal Deluge. By the Rev. W. Buckland, &c. &c. London, 1823.

This important and interesting work is destined to take an eminent and lasting station in the world of science.

The original paper, giving an account of the remarkable cave at Kirkdale \* in Yorkshire, filled with the bones of many animals, having appeared in the Philosophical Transactions, soon found its way, under various forms, to the periodical press, and has thus become so generally known as to require no detailed description. The Copley medal awarded to its author, and other encouraging circumstances, have induced him to prosecute his researches both in England and Germany, and the present enlarged inquiry is the result of his observations. To understand what we may have to state of these, it is needful to insert a portion of definition:

"As I (says Mr. B.) shall have frequent occasion to make use of the word diluvium, it may be necessary to premise, that I apply it to those extensive and general deposits of superficial loam and gravel, which appear to have been produced by the last great convulsion that has affected our planet; and that with regard to the

<sup>&</sup>quot;Kirkdale is situated about twenty-five miles NNE. of the city of York, between Helmsley and Kirby Moorside, near the point at which the east base of the Hambleton hills, looking towards Scarborough, subsides into the vale of Pickering, and on the S. extremity of the mountainous district known by the name of the Eastern and the Cleveland Moorlands."

indications afforded by geology of such a convulsion, I entirely coincide with the views of M. Cuvier, in considering them as bearing undeniable evidence of a recent and transient inundation. On these grounds I have felt myself fully justified in applying the epithet diluvial, to the results of this great convulsion; of antediluvial, to the state of things immediately preceding it; and postdiluvial, or alluvial, to that which succeeded it, and has continued to the present time."

As throwing a light upon this remote question, the cave of Kirkdale offers some curious data. The remains found imbedded in the instance alluded to, were preserved from decomposition strata of loam and stalagmite. which effectually protected them from the action of the atmospheric air; and their different stages of decay were obviously owing to their possessing more or less of this protection. Teeth and bones of twenty-three species of animals, including elephant, rhinoceros, hippopotamus, horse, tiger, bear, ox, deer, &c. have been ascertained; and the hypothesis respecting them is, that they belonged to various creatures devoured by hyænas, of which this cave was the abode for generations; and it is calculated from their reliquize, to the number of at least from 200 to 300 had been its inhabitants previous to the deluge. Mr. B. demonstrates that the habits of these hyænas were similar to those of the hyæna of the present day, though they are supposed to have been onethird larger than the largest species which now exists, namely, the striped hyæna of Abyssinia.

"Thus the phenomena of this

cave seem referable to a period immediately antecedent to the last inundation of the earth, and in which the world was inhabited by land animals, almost all bearing a generic, and many a specific resemblance to those which now exist: but so completely has the violence of that tremendous convulsion destroyed and remodelled the form of the antediluvian aurface, that it is only in caverns that have been protected from its ravages that we may hope to find undisturbed evidence of events in the period immediately preceding it. The bones already described, and the stalagmite formed before the introduction of the diluvial mud. are what I consider to be the products of the period in question. It was indeed probable, before the discovery of this cave, from the abundance in which the remains of similar species occur in superficial gravel beds, which cannot be referred to any other than a diluvial origin, that such animals were the antediluvien inhabitants not only of this country but generally of all those northern latitudes in which their remains are found. (but the proof was imperfect, as it was possible they might have been drifted or floated hither by the waters from the warmer regions of the earth;) but the facts developed in this charnel-house of the antediluvian forests of Yorkshire demonstrate that there was a long succession of years in which the elephant, rhinoceros, and hippopotamus, had been the prey of the hyænas, which, like themselves, inhabited England in the period immediately preceding the formation of the diluvial gravel; and if they inhabited this country,

it follows as a corollary, that they also inhabited all those other regions of the northern hemisphere, in which similar bones have been found under precisely the same circumstances, not mineralized, but simply in the state of grave bones imbedded in loam, or clay, or gravel, over great part of northern Europe, as well as North America and Siberia. The catastrophe producing this gravel appears to have been the last event that has operated generally to modify the surface of the earth; and the few local and partial changes that have succeeded it, such as the formation of deltas, terraces, tufa, torrent-gravel and peat-bogs, all conspire to show, that the period of their commencement was subsequent to that at which the diluvium was formed."

Ĝ

;

"It is not to my present purpose to discuss the difficulties that will occur on both sides, till the further progress of geological science shall have afforded us more ample information as to the structure of our globe, and have supplied those data, without which all opinions that can be advanced on the subject must be premature, and amount to no more than plausible conjecture. At present I am concerned only to establish two important facts,-1st, That there has been a recent and general inundation of the globe; and, 2d, That the animals whose remains are found interred in the wreck of that inundation were natives of high north latitudes, and not drifted to their present place from equatorial regions by the waters that caused their destruction. One thing, however, is nearly certain, viz. that if any

change of climate has taken place, it took place suddenly; for how otherwise could the elephant's carcase, found entire in ice at the mouth of the Lenz, have been preserved from putrefaction till it was frozen up with the waters of the then existing ocean? Nor is it less probable that this supposed change was contemporaneous with, and produced by, the same cause which brought on the inundation. What this cause was, whether a change in the inclination in the earth's axis, or the near approach of a comet, or any other cause or combination of causes purely astronomical, is a question the discussion of which is foreign to the object of the present memoir.

--- " In a geological point of view, the occurrence of these bones, under the circumstances above described, is important, as illustrating the manner in which the bones of antediluvian animals may have been accumulated by falling into similar fissures, which are now filled up with diluvial mud and pebbles; for if fissures existed (as they undoubtedly did) on the antediluvian face of the earth in much greater abundance than since that grand aqueous revolution, which has entirely filled up so many of them with its detritus, there is no reason why the then existing animals should not have fallen into them and perished, as modern animals do in the comparatively few cavities that remain still open in our limestone districts: and when we consider that it is the habit of graminivorous animals to be constantly traversing the surface of the ground in every direction in pursuit of food, it is obvious that they are subject in a greater degree than those which are carnivorous to the perpetual danger of falling into any fissures or imperfectly closed chasms that may lie in their way; and in this circumstance we see an explanation of the comparatively rare occurrence of the remains of beasts of prey in the osseous breccia of the antediluvian fissure, although they also occasionally perished in them, as the dogs do at this day in the open fissure at Duncombe Park.

" Many of the arguments arising from the detail of facts we have been describing in Yorkshire are applicable to the illustration of analogous phenomena, where the evidence of their history is less complete. In our own country there are seven other instances of bones similarly deposited in caverns, the origin of some of which, though not before satisfactorily made out, becomes evident as a corollary from the proofs afforded by the cave at Kirkdale: these are in the counties of Somerset, Derby, Devon, and Glamorganshire."

His accounts of the other English caves, and of the caves in Germany, are very curious. The latter, where animal remains occurred in the same manner as at Kirkdale, he agrees with M. Cuvier in ascribing to bears;\* in other cases to natural effects of deluge. The general argument is thus laid down:

"In the conclusion of my account of Kirkdale, I stated, that its phenomena were decisive in establishing the fact, that animals which are now limited exclusively to warmer latitudes, e. g. the elephant, rhinoceros, hippopotamus, and hyæna, were the antediluvian inhabitants of Britain, and not drifted northwards by the diluvian currents from more southern or equatorial regions, as had often been suggested, and was never till now disproved; and I pointed out the inference with respect to a probable change of climate in the northern hemisphere, which seems to follow from this circumstance.

"Another important quence arising directly from the inhabited caves, and ossiferous fissures, the existence of which has been now shown to extend generally over Europe, is that the present sea and land have not changed place; but that the antediluvian surface of at least a large portion of the northern hemisphere was the same with the present; since those tracts of dry land in which we find the ossiferous caves and fissures must have been dry also, when the land animals inhabited or fell into them, in the period immediately preceding the inundation by which they were extirpated. And bence it follows, that wherever such caves and fissures occur, i. e. in the greater part of Europe, and in whatever districts of the other Continents such bones may be found under similar circumstances.

there

<sup>• &</sup>quot;M. Cuvier in his first edition states, that the bones found in these caverns are identical over an extent of more than 200 leagues; that three-fourths of the whole belong to two species of bear, both extinct—the ursus spelæus and ursus arctoideus, and two-thirds of the remainder to extinct hyænas; a very few to a large species of the cat family, being neither a lion, tiger, panther, or leopard, but most resembling the jaguar of South America; with them is found a species of glutton, and a welf or dog (not distinguishable from a recent species,) a fox, and polecat."

there did not take place any such interchange of the surfaces occupied respectively by land and water, as many writers of high authority have conceived to have immediately succeeded the last great geological revolution, by an universal and transient inundation which has affected the planet we inhabit."

5

Z

3

2

Ę

ż

Ć

ť

Mr. B. is also of opinion, that all human bones found in caves or strata are post-diluvian; that at the date of the English and German caves, this part of the hemisphere was entirely inhabited by beasts, and became only at a later era the abode of man; that these beasts were all extinguished at one period by an overflow of waters; that this inundation produced all the varieties of cavernous deposits, and of loam and gravel, in which they are deposited; that their various states of preservation depend on natural and local causes; and that all the traces on the surface of the globe demonstrate the truth of Mosaic history of a Universal Deluge.

27. Historical View of the Literature of the South of Europe. By J. C. L. Simonde de Sismondi, of the Academy and Society of Arts at Geneva, Honorary Member of the University of Wilna, of the Italian Academy, &c. Translated from the original, with Notes, by Thomas Roscoe, Esq.

The names both of the author and translator of the above work, afford a sufficient guarantee for its excellence. We give the following extract from the chapter upon the literature of the Trouba-

dours; a name which at once presents to the fancy, the tournament and the court of love, the bower and the castle; bright ladies and gallant knights, caparisoned steeds and tented fields, with all the dazzling enchantments of chivalry.

"When, in the tenth century, the nations of the South of Europe attempted to give a consistency to the rude dialects which had been produced by the mixture of the Latin with the northern tongues, one of the new languages appeared to prevail over the others. Sooner formed, more generally spread, and more rapidly cultivated than its rivals, it seemed to assume the place of the forsaken Thousands of poets flourished, almost contemporaneously, in this new language, who gave it a character of originality which owes nothing to the Greeks or the Romans, or to what is called classical literature. They spread their reputation from the extremity of Spain to that of Italy; and they have served as models to all the poets, who afterwards succeeded them in other languages, even to those of the north, and amongst these to the English and the German. All at once, however, this ephemeral re-The voice of putation vanished. the Troubadours was silent; the Provençal was abandoned, and, undergoing new changes, again became a mere dialect, till after a brilliant existence of three centuries, its productions were ranked amongst those of the dead languages. From this period, it received no additions.

"The high reputation of the Provençal poets, and the rapid decline of their language, are two phenomena

phenomena equally striking in the history of the cultivation of the human mind. That literature, which has given models to other nations, yet, amongst its crowd of agreeable poems, has not produced a single masterpiece, a single work of genius destined to immortality, is the more worthy of our attention, as it is entirely the offspring of the age, and not of individuals. veals to us the sentiments, the imagination, and the spirit of the modern nations, in their infancy. It exhibits what was common to all and pervaded all; and not what genius, superior to the age, enabled a single individual to accomplish. Thus the return of the beautiful days of Spring is announced to us, not by some

single wonder of the gardens, in the production of which the artificial exertions of man have seconded the efforts of nature, but by the brilliant flowers of the fields, and by the prodigality of the meadows."

and his successors introduced into Provence the spirit both of liberty and chivalry, and a taste for elegance and the arts, with all the sciences of the Arabians. The union of these noble sentiments gave birth to that poetical spirit which shone out, at once, over Provence and all the South of Europe, like an electric flash in the midst of the most palpable darkness, illuminating all things by the brightness of its flame."

The following is translated from Guillaume de St. Gregory, and of the class called "Sirventes," Martial or Political Songs.

The beautiful Spring delights me well,
When flowers and leaves are growing;
And it pleases my heart, to hear the swell
Of the birds' sweet chorus flowing
In the echoing wood;
And I love to see all scatter'd around,
Pavilions and tents, on the martial ground;
And my spirit finds it good
To see, on the level plains beyond,
Gay knights and steeds caparison'd.

It pleases me, when the Lancers bold
Set men and armies flying;
And it pleases me, too, to hear the sound,
The voice of the soldiers crying;
And joy is mine,
When the eastles strong besieged shake,
And walls uprooted totter and quake,
And I see the formen join
On the mosted shore, all compass'd round
With the palisade and guarded mound.

Lances

Lances and swords, and stained helms,
And shields dismantled and broken,
On the verge of the bloody battle-scene,
The field of wrath betoken;
And the vassals are there,
And there fly the steeds of the dying and dead;
And where the mingled strife is spread,
The noblest warrior's care
Is to cleave the foeman's limbs and head,
The conqueror less of the living than dead.

I tell you that nothing my soul can cheer,
Or banqueting or reposing,
Like the onset cry of "Charge them" rung
From each side, as in battle closing;
Where the horses neigh,
And the call to "aid," is echoing loud,
And there, on the earth, the lowly and proud
In the foss together lie;
And yonder is piled the mingled heap
Of the brave, that scaled the trench's steep.

Barons! your castles in safety place,
Your cities and villages, too,
Before ye haste to the battle-scene:
And, Papiol!\* quickly go,
And tell the lord of "Yes and No,"†
That peace already too long hath been!

The above was dedicated to Beatrix of Savoy, the wife of Raymond Berenger V. the last Count of Provence. Beatrix was the mother of four queens, of France, of Germany, of England, and of Naples.

Song by Richard I.† written during his imprisonment in the Tour Ténébreuse, or Black Tower.

No wretched captive of his prison speaks,
Unless with pain and bitterness of soul;
Yet consolation from the Muse he seeks,
Whose voice alone misfortune can control.
Where now is each ally, each baron, friend,
Whose face I ne'er beheld without a smile?
Will none, his sovereign to redeem, expend
The smallest portion of his treasures vile?

<sup>\*</sup> The name of the Troubadour's Jongleur, of page. + Richard Cosar de Lion.

Though none may blush that, near two tedious years, Without relief, my bondage has endured, Yet know, my English, Norman, Gascon peers, Not one of you should thus remain immured: The meanest subject of my wide domains, Had I been free, a ransom should have found; I mean not to reproach you with my chains, Yet still I wear them on a foreign ground!

Too true it is—so selfish human race!

"Nor dead nor captive, friend or kindred find;"
Since here I pine in bondage and disgrace,
For lack of gold my fetters to unbind.
Much for myself I feel, yet ah! still more
That no compassion from my subjects flows:
What can from infamy their names restore,
If, while a prisoner, death my eyes should close?

But small is my surprise, though great my grief,
To find, in spite of all his solemn vows,
My lands are ravaged by the Gallic chief,
While none my cause has courage to espouse.
Though lofty towers obscure the cheerful day,
Yet through the dungeon's melancholy gloom,
Kind Hope, in gentle whispers, seems to say,
"Perpetual thraldom is not yet thy doom."

Ye dear companions of my happy days,
Of Chail and Pensavin, aloud declare
Throughout the earth, in everlasting lays,
My foes against me wage inglorious war.
Oh, tell them, too, that ne'er, among my crimes,
Did breach of faith, deceit, or fraud appear;
That infamy will brand to latest times
The insults I receive, while captive here.

Know, all ye men of Anjou and Touraine,
And every bach'lor knight, robust and brave,
That duty, now, and love, alike are vain,
From bonds your sovereign and your friend to save.
Remote from consolation here I lie,
The wretched captive of a powerful foe,
Who all your zeal and ardour can defy,
Nor leaves you aught, but pity, to bestow.

The following Song is the production of Dietmar von Aste:-

There sate upon the lindén tree,
A bird, and sang its strain;
So sweet it sang, that as I heard
My heart went back again.

It went to one remember'd spot,
It saw the rose-trees grow,
And thought again the thoughts of love
There cherish'd long ago.

A thousand years to me it seems,
Since by my fair I sate;
Yet thus to be a stranger long,
Is not my choice, but fate:
Since then I have not seen the flowers,
Nor heard the bird's sweet song:
My joys have all too briefly past,
My griefs been all too long.

## The following are by Arnaud de Marveil:---

All I behold recalls the memory
Of her I love. The freshness of the hour,
Th' enamell'd fields, the many coloured flower,
Speaking of her, move to me melody.
Had not the poets, with that courtly phrase,
Saluted many a fair of meaner worth,
I could not now have render'd thee the praise
So justly due, of "Fairest of the Earth."
To name thee thus had been to speak thy name,
And waken, o'er thy cheek, the blush of modest shame.

Oh! how sweet the breath of April,
Breathing soft as May draws near!
While through nights of tranquil beauty,
Soags of gladness meet the ear:
Every bird his well-known language
Uttering in the morning's pride,
Revelling in joy and gladness
By his happy partner's side.

When around me all is smiling,
When to life the young birds spring,
Thoughts of love, I cannot hinder,
Come, my heart inspiriting—
Nature, habit, both incline me
In such joy to bear my part:
With such sounds of blias around me,
Who could wear a sadden'd heart?

Fairer than the far-famed Helen,
Lovelier than the flow'rets gay,
Snow-white teeth, and lips truth-telling,
Heart as open as the day;

Golden

Golden hair, and fresh bright roses,— Heaven, who form'd a thing so fair, Knows that never yet another Lived, who can with her compare.

The following beautiful Elegy is by Ausias March:---

The hands, which never spare, have snatch'd thee hence,
Cutting the frail thread of thy tender life,
And bearing thee from out this scene of strife,
Obedient still to Fate's dark ordinance.
All that I see and feel now turns to pain,
When I remember thee I loved so well;
Yet, from the griefs that in my bosom swell,
I seem to snatch some taste of bliss again;
Thus, fed by tender joy, my grief shall last:
Unfed, the deepest sorrow soon is past.

Within a gentle heart love never dies;
He fades in breasts which guilty thoughts distress,
And fails the sooner for his own excess;
But lives, when rich in virtuous qualities.
When the eye sees not and the touch is gone,
And all the pleasures Beauty yields are o'er,
Howe'er the conscious sufferer may deplore,
We know that soon such sensual griefs are flown.
Virtuous and holy love links mind to mind;
And such is ours, which death cannot unbind.

The war against the Albigenses was the principal cause of the destruction of Provençal poetry, and ruin of the Troubadours; a war undertaken against religion, and carried on with the most unrelenting malignity and annihilating devastation. The clergy had fallen by their vices into utter contempt: the Troubadours satirized them. "If," said Raymond de Castelnau, "God has willed the Black Monks to be unrivalled in their good eating and in their amours, and the White Monks in their lying bulls, and the Templars and Hospitallers in pride, and the Canons in usury; I hold St. Peter and St. Andrew to have been egregious fools, for suffering so many torments for the sake of God; since all these people also are to be saved." The gentry granted the bene-

fices in their gifts to their servants and bailiffs, and it was with them a proverbial expression, "I had rather have been a priest than have done so disgraceful a thing."

Innocent III. proclaimed a crusade against those who ventured to separate from the Romish Church: he addressed a letter to the King of France, and to all princes and most powerful barons, as well as to the metropolitans and the bishops, exhorting them to avenge the blood which had been shed, (Pierre de Castelnau, the legate of the Pope,) and to extirpate the heresy. All the indulgences and pardons usually granted to the crusaders were promised to those who exterminated these unbelievers, a thousand times more detestable than the Turks and Saracens. than

than 300,000 men appeared in arms, to accomplish this butchery; and the first nobles of France, the most virtuous, and perhaps the mildest of her aristocracy, believed that they were rendering an acceptable service to God, in thus arming themselves against their brethren. Raymond VI. Count of Toulouse, one of whose gentlemen had killed the priest before mentioned, and who was accused of favouring the heretics, terrified at this storm, submitted to every thing that was required of him. He delivered up his fortresses, and even marched to the crusade against the most faithful of his own subjects; and yet, notwithstanding this disgraceful weakness, he did not escape the hatred or the vengeance of the clergy. But Raymond Roger, Viscount of Beziers, his youthful and generous nephew, without sharing himself in the heretical opinions, would not consent to the atrocities which were about to be committed in his states. He encouraged his subjects to defend themselves; and shutting himself up in Carcassone, and delivering Beziers to the care of his lieutenants, awaited with firmness the attack of the crusaders. Beziers was taken by assault, on the 22d July, 1209, and with this city fell Provencal poetry. 15,000 inhabitants, according to the narrative which the abbot of the Cistercians transmitted to the Pope, or 60,000, according to other contemporary writers, were put to the sword. The city itself, after a general massacre, not only of its inhabitants but likewise of the neighbouring peasantry, who had thrown themselves into it, was reduced to An old Provençal historian has augmented, by the sim-

plicity of his language, the horror of this picture.

" They entered the city of Beziers, where they murdered more people than was ever known in the world: for they spared neither young nor old, nor infants at the breast. They killed and murdered all of them; which being seen by the said people of the city, they that were able did retreat into the great church of St. Nazarius, both men and women. The chaplains thereof, when they retreated, caused the bells to ring until every body was dead. But peither the sound of the bells, nor the chaplains in their priestly habits, nor the clerks, could hinder all from being put to the sword; one only escaped, for all the rest were slain, and died. Nothing so pitiable was ever heard of or done; and when the city had been pillaged, it was set on fire, so that it was all pillaged and burned, even as it appears at this day. No living thing was left; which was a cruel vengeance, seeing that the said Viscount was neither a heretic nor of their sect."

The same tremendous war devastated the whole of the South of France. They who escaped from the sacking of the towns, were sacrificed by the faggot. From 1209 to 1229 nothing was seen but massacres and tortures. The Muses fled from a soil polluted with carnage.

Among the persecutors a few Troubadours were found, the most celebrated of whom was the abominable Folquet, bishop of Toulouse, who betrayed alike his prince and his flock; and Izarn, a Dominican missionary and inquisitor, who among others has left us the following beautiful relic!—

As you declare you won't believe, 'tia fit that you should burn,
And as your fellows have been burnt, that you should blaze in turn;
And as you've disobey'd the will of God and of St. Paul,
Which ne'er was found within your heart, nor pass'd your teeth at all,
The fire is lit, the pitch is hot, and ready is the stake,
That through these tortures, for your sins, a passage you may take.

The greater part of the Troubadours beheld, however, with equal detestation, both the crusade and the domination of the French. The following martial ballad was written at this time, calling the persecuted Provençals to resist the plundering invasion which St. Louis was directing against them, under the pretence of a zeal for religion and social order. It is now very curious, as shewing the light in which some of his contemporaries viewed the hypocrisy and cruelty of this St. Louis, whose God is, in the year 1823, invoked in support of similar projects.

I'll make a song shall body forth
My full and free complaint,
To see the heavy hours pass on,
And witness to the feint
Of coward souls, whose vows were made
In falsehood, and are yet unpaid;
Yet, noble Sirs, we will not fear,
Strong in the hope of succours near.

Yes! full and ample help for us
Shall come, so trusts my heart;
God fights for us, and these our foes,
The French, must soon depart;
For on the souls that fear not God
Soon, soon shall fall the vengeful rod:
Then, noble Sirs, we will not fear,
Strong in the hope of succours near.

And hither they believe to come,
(The treacherous, base crusaders!)
But, ev'n as quickly as they come,
We'll chase those fierce invaders;
Without a shelter they shall fly
Before our valiant chivalry:

Then, noble Sirs, we will not fear, Strong in the hope of succours near.

And ev'n if Frederic, on the throne
Of powerful Germany,
Submits the cruel ravages
Of Louis' hosts to see;
Yet, in the breast of England's king,
Wrath, deep and vengeful, shall upspring;
Then, noble Sirs, we will not fear,
Strong in the hope of succours near.

Not much those meek and holy men, The traitorous Bishops, mourn,

Though

Though from our hands the sepulchre
Of our dear Lord be torn;
More tender far their anxious care
For the rich plunder of Belcaire:
But, noble Sirs, we will not fear,
Strong in the hope of succours near.

And look at our proud Cardinal,
Whose hours in peace are past;
Look at his splendid dwelling-place,
(Pray Heaven it may not last!)
He heeds not, while he lives in state,
What ills on Damietta wait:

But, noble Sirs, we will not fear, Strong in the hope of succours near.

I cannot think that Avignon
Will lose its holy zeal
In this our cause, so ardently
It's citizens can feel.
Then shame to him who will not bear
In this so glorious cause his share!
And, noble Sirs, we will not fear,
Strong in the hope of succours near.

We make the following as our last extract. It is the Lay de departie of Raoul de Coucy, who was killed in 1229, at the Battle of Massoura.

How cruel is it to depart,
Lady! who causest all my grief.
My body to it's Lord's relief
Must go, but thou retain'st my heart.
To Syria now I wend my way,
Where Paynim swords no terror move:
Yet sad shall be each lingering day,
Far from the side of her I love.

We learn from many a grave divine,
That God hath written in his laws,
That, to avenge his holy cause,
All earthly things we must resign.
Lord! I surrender all to thee!
No goods have I, nor castle fair;
But, were my Lady kind to me,
I should not know regret nor care.

At least, in this strange foreign land,
My thoughts may dwell by night and d y
(Fearless of what detractors say)
On her whose smile is ever bland.
And now I make my will,—and here
I give, and fully do devise,
My heart to her I hold so dear,
My soul to God in Paradise.

CHAP-

#### CHAPTER II.

#### DISCOVERIES AND INVENTIONS,—FACTS IN ARTS. SCIENCES AND PHILOSOPHY.

A new mineral has lately been discovered in the parish of Eyer, in the South of Norway, and it is found in nodules of quartz, dis-The crystals posed in granite. appear to radiate from the granite into the quartz. From its pointed form it has received the name of Achmite, from the Greek word achme, a point. It contains silica, 55.25; oxide of iron, 31.2; do. of manganese, 1.08; lime, 0.72; soda, 10.40.

Dr. Brewster has discovered two new fluids in the cavities of minerals, which are immiscible, and possess remarkable physical properties.—Dr. B. conceives this circumstance to weigh strongly on the side of the aqueous formation of minerals, and against the igneous system.

A remarkable flint battle-axe was found at Claremont near St. Andrew's, on the property of James Nairn, Esq. It is a foot long, its mean thickness 21 inches, its weight 1lb. 14oz. It is polished, and perfectly smooth. It is be-

lieved to be unique.

Mr. Perkins has invented a new Steam Engine, in which the steam is compressed, and thus its power most wonderfully increased. That at work in his own manufactory is a ten-horse power, although the cylinder is only 2 inches in diameter and 18 inches long, with a stroke of only 12 In full work, it consumes only 2 bushels of coals per day. It occupies a space of only 6.0 x 8.0, yet Mr. Perkins considers it sufficient for a thirty-horse He can apply his inpower. vention to engines on the old construction.

Dr. Brewster has discovered that the plants Chara vulgaris and Hispida are phosphorescent, and, when laid upon heated iron, display their entire outlines in the

The meteoric stone of Epinal has been analyzed by Vauquelin. It was covered with a fused black coating. A quantity of 4 grammes, or 61.8 grains, gave silica, 1.40; oxide of iron, 2.51; sulphur, 0.09; oxide of chrome, 0.01; oxide of nickel, 0.02; magnesia, 0.17; lime and potash, 0.50.

Mr. Farraday has announced the discovery, that gases may be

condensed into liquids.

Dr. R. Knox had discovered the foramen centrale of the retina to exist in the eyes of reptiles. He also observes the vision of the horse to be weak and im-

The polarisation of sound has been established in experiments upon vibration, by Mr. Wheat-

stone.

Under the tropics, Colonel Wright observes, mercury rises and falls twice in twenty-four hours so regularly that time may be measured by it.

A whirlwind occurred at Scarborough on the 24th June. It tore up two large elm-trees, and proceeded to the sea, into which it

drove nine machines: one was whirled about several times; it then entered the harbour, and drove three large vessels from their moorings. Its sound resembled the rattling of several carriages together. Its base appeared to vary in diameter from 60 to 80 yards, and its height about 700 feet.

Mr. Perkins has crystallized acetic acid, by pressure of 1000 atmospheres. The crystals thus formed are pure acid. He has also compressed atmospheric air into fluid.

A quantity of acid earth has been brought from Persia, by Colonel Wright. The inhabitants use it in making sherbet: it contains sulphuric acid.

M. Julius Leo of Berlin has proved that earthworms multiply by eggs.

Mr. Barnes, of Cornwall in America, has discovered that steel may be cut by the rapid motion of a circular saw of soft iron.

In November 1822, a tremendous eruption issued from the mountain Preanger Regencies in Java. Masses of rock were thrown from the volcano, and the courses of rivers were stopped by them. The country twenty miles round was completely destroyed, and 6000 persons lost their lives.

Mr. Davis has shewn that the Chinese year is a lunar year, consisting of twelve months of twenty-nine and thirty days alternately, with the intercalation of a thirteenth month seven times in nineteen years, to make the year correspond more nearly with the sun's course.

Sir E. Home has found that the ears of animals generally having the tympanum oval and the radii of different lengths, are not, like the human ear, adapted for hearing musical sounds. Experiments were tried upon the elephant and the lion at Exeter 'Change: they did not move at the sharp notes, but at the flat tones the lion became greatly infuriated, attempted to break loose, and lashed his tail, yelling at the same time; all which ceased with the music.

In August 1823, a water-spout was seen near the village of Boncourt in France. Its broad base rested on the ground, and its summit was lost in the clouds. It consisted of thick black vapour, and flames issued from it. It tore up trees, levelled houses, overturned and broke carts to pieces although heavily laden, and destroyed many lives. A similar water-spout occurred near Genoa, in September 1823.

Mr. Perkins has invented a small apparatus, acting as a gun by steam. It discharged 240 musquet-balls in a minute.

In the 97 parishes within the walls, 17 parishes without, 23 outparishes in Middlesex and Surrey, and in the 10 parishes of Westminster, during the past year, there have been born and christened, 13,945 males; 13,734 females; total, 27,679; — buried, 10,455 males; 10,132 females; total, 20,587.—Among the diseases and casualties, the most striking items are—consumption, 5012; inflammation, 2189; small-pox, 774; apoplexy, 332; drowned, 118; burnt, 39; suicide, 24; excessive drinking, 6; executed, 22; murdered, 2; poisoned, 6; starved, 1.—The burials are stated to have increased 1722. It is gratifying, however, to remark, that above a twentieth part of the persons who died.

died, had attained the ages of 70 and 80 years; more than 100 exceeded 90 years; four had reached to 100; and three died respectively at 102, 107, and 109.

A recent table of the population of Russia makes the total number 40,067,000. Of these only 3,724 are manufacturers. The commercial capital is estimated at 319,660,000 roubles; (a rouble is worth about 10d.)

Of gold, the mines of Europe produce, in sterling, only 185,020l.; Northern Asia, 76,770l.; America, the rest of the total of 2,467,260l. in the following proportions:—New Spain, 229,630l.; New Granada, 672,500l.; Peru, 111,530l.; Potosi, and Provinces east of Buenos Ayres, 72,180l.; Chile, 400,550l.; and Brazil, 980,870l.

Of silver, the total amount of which is 7,319,670l., Europe produces 484,580l., and Northern Asia 199,750l. America furnishes the rest; as New Spain, 4,945,340l; Peru, 1,292,440l.; Potosi, &c. 1,019,070l.; and Chile, 62,820l.

Professor Dobereiner of Jena has discovered that platina, in a spongy state, occasions the combination of hydrogen and oxygen at common temperatures, and that the extrication of heat that results is sufficient to make the metal red-hot.

Blumenbach has ascertained the irritability of the tongue to exceed by far that of the heart. He made his experiment upon the tongue of a four-year old ox, which had been killed in the usual way. It moved at the prick of a knife several minutes after it was cut out.

Stutgard.—Workmen had been employed in digging at a place

called Kahlenstein. They lately discovered several bones of the mammoth, of an extraordinary Besides a molar tooth, almost reduced to powder, thirteen feet seven inches long without reckoning the cavity of the tooth, there were several vertebræ and ribs, a great piece of the hip-bone, another molar tooth, and several fragments of the occiput. the course of their work they upper bone found the of the fore-foot, the thickest part of which is a foot in diameter, and a fragment of a molar tooth seven feet and a half long. these bones are in a layer of clay mixed with sand, eighteen feet below the upper surface of the mountains, and eighty-two above the level of the river Neckar. They are the largest that have yet been found in Wurtemberg.

Succinic Acid in Turpentine.— MM. Lecanu and Serbat have ascertained with certainty the presence of succinic acid in turpentine. It rises when the oil is distilled, towards the end of the operation, and has all the properties of true succinic acid. They have pointed out, also, that the presence of acetic acid takes from succinic acid the power of forming precipitates, with preparations of iron, copper, lead, or barytes. Neither will a mixture of acetate and succinate of potash precipitate these substances; on the contrary, the succinates, when produced, are soluble without difficulty in a sufficient quantity of acetate of potash.

Heart of a Munny.—The Royal College of Physicians have been presented with a human heart, which was found in a sarcophagus dug out of the ruins of an Egyp-

tian

tian temple, and which still retains its full size and fleshy soft-The sarcophagus was imported into Malta before being opened, where its contents were explored in the presence of several persons, and some of the medical men of the island. The most persevering force of the hammer and chisel was required before the lid of the sarcophagus could be It was found to be removed. filled with bituminous matter, and contained a fluid of the colour and appearance of old port wine, and which fluid immediately enveloped this most unique relic of human mortality. The heart is now preserved in spirits in the usual manner of anatomical preparations. The fluid is kept in a phial separately, and, according to the analysis of Sir Humphrey Davy, consists principally of vegetable extractive matter, with a portion of resin.

By the official returns for 1822, it appears that the population of Paris has thus increased during that year:

Bulsa. Femules. Total.

Births (in marriage) ---- 8,671 8,458 17,199 (out of marr.—known) 1,126 1,144 2,270 (—————unknown) 3,165 3,716 7,481

13,560 13,118 26,880

Marriages — Young men and young girls, 5933—Young men and widows, 329-Widowers and young girls, 685-Widowers and widows, 210---Total 7157. The adoptions of children are registered at 8. Deaths-Males unmarried, 7978 — Married, 2755 — Widowers, 914-At the Morgue, 203—Total 11,850.——Females unmarried, 6537—Married, 2597 ---Widows, 2244—At the Morgue, 41—Total 11,419. Total of both sexes, 23,269.——Children dead born, 795 male, and 626 female --Total 1421.

-Deaths . . . . . . . . . . . . . 28,269

Balance in favour of population 3,611

Rock Crystal.—Spallanzani remarks that the beautiful rock crystals in the cavities of the Carrara marble, continue still to form, and from a pure acid fluid. Ripetti, in his tract Sopra l'Alpe Avuana ei Marmi di Carrara. 1811. adduces some new observations in favour of this opinion, and says that on opening a drusy cavity there was found one pound and a half of the above fluid, and among the solid crystals, a soft mass, the size of a fist, which hardened on exposure to the air into the character of chalcedony. The opal of Hungary is said to be sometimes found in a soft state.

Utility of Sparrows. — Mr. Bradly shews that a pair of sparrows, during the time they have their young to feed, destroy, on an average every week, This calculation be caterpillars. founds upon actual observation.

Several chemists have analyzed the lava of the last eruption of Vesuvius, and M. Pepe has discovered in it the following ingredients: -- sulphate of potash, sulphate of soda, sub-sulphate of alumine, of chalk, and of magnesia; hydro-chlorate of potash, that of soda, a good deal of oxid of aluminium, calcium, silicium, and magnesium; much trioxid of iron, antimony, and a little gold and silver.

		GENE	RAL M	ETEOF	IIC AC	COUNT	GENERAL METEORIC ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR 1823.	E YE	AR	1823.					
MONTH.	TB	teermometer.	rbr.	pi,	BAROMETER.	SR.	PLUVI- AMBTBR.				W	WINDS.			
	Highest.	Highest. Lowest.	Mean.	Highest. Lowest.	Lowest.	Mean.	Inches.	ż	s.	ъ.	W.	NE.	SR.	NW.	SW.
Japuary	48	4	80.49	30.08	28.97	29.6035	1.125	တ	98	00	65	Ξ	0	-	4
February	20	22	57.38	80.15	28.59	29.3757	8.15	70	<b>6</b> %	-	85	တ	_	93	11
March	9	27	41.11	30.30	28.97	29.6956	ï	•0	9	63	~	-	-	95	6
April	65	98	45.17	30.30	29.24	29.7572	1.625	ø,	_	00	9	4	_	_	•
May	78	38	55.74	80.29	29.44	29.8478	.85	-	_	03	ø2	4	တ	0	17
June	7.1	36	57.10	30.20	29.27	29.8274	1.725	4	0	-	တ	<b>∞</b>	0	•5	11
July	7.5	48	59.79	29.98	29.50	29.7185	2.325	8	_	-	4	_	0	93	19
August	28	89	C1.02	30.13	29.49	29.8118	1.925	-	-	0	4	_	<b>6</b> 8	0	<b>₹</b>
September	73	80	55.81	30.27	29.23	29.8969	.775	1	_	7	<b>6</b> ¥	9	*	•5	13
October	09	88	46.72	30.29	28.73	29.5837	4.275	0	<b>0</b> 3	-	_	•	2	4	12
November	26	28	43.43	80.48	29.36	80.0103	1.95	95	-	0	0	9	4	94	18
December	52	202	39.26	30.37	28.91	29.5361	2.575	0	-	•	<b>0</b> %	-	-	<b>∞</b>	18
Year	78	•	47.74	80.48	28.59 29.	29. 722	23.3	25	19	25	37	52	21	82	157

## CHAPTER III.

#### STATE OF THE FINE ARTS.

In a work like this, transient indeed is the glance which can be taken of the state of Art: if we succeed in giving some general impression of the subject, it is all we can hope to do. It is a source of proud pleasure, to perceive the high stand which the artists of this country have attained.

ROYAL Exhibition of THE ACADEMY .- No. 7 (Lord Harewood) is among the President's best portraits. No. 9, (Don Quixotte in his study,) by G. S. Newton, though but a foot square, is, to our taste, nearly the best picture in the exhibition. It represents the Knight of the Woeful Countenance in the only character under which he should ever be thought of as an abstract person; namely, a perfectly serious, solemn, and even poetical one. He is seated among his books of chivalry, absorbed in meditation. There is no mixture whatever of the ludicrous in it, or of any thing that can suggest it. And this is exactly as it should be. The abstract character of Don Quixotte is a piece of pure passion and pathos from beginning to It is by his acts alone, and by the circumstances into which these lead him, that we have acquired ludicrous associations respecting him; and these associations should all leave him, and give way to a mixture of admiration and pity, whenever we think of himself alone.

The next work we notice is one of the very best of this year's col-

lection, and among the most pleasing and poetical that Howard ever painted. It is called "The Solar System," and is most happily as well as originally conceived, and delightfully executed. sun, and its attendant planets, together with their satellites respectively, are personified under the form of human figures. And though each occupies its place in a circle, of which the sun is the centre, yet the different distances of each are typified by the different degrees of distinctness with which their characters and attributes are made out. The green earth in particular, with her sweet moon beside her, is charmingly given.—The Dawn, by Fuseli, is less unnatural, and consequently less unpleasing, than any picture this artist has exhibited for some vears.

Allan's picture on the subject of "John Knox admonishing Mary Queen of Scots on the day when her intention to marry Darnley had been made public," is a very unequal work. It has considerable merit in some parts, and quite as considerable defects. It is the best example of this artist's colouring that we have seen, and the character and expression of the sturdy old reformer are good. But the queen is strangely insipid and unmeaning; and the halfseen figure, skulking away behind, is in wretched taste.

Collins's picture of the "Fish Auction," is a work in exactly the same class, but full of richness, spirits,

spirit, and truth. Nothing can be better than the whole figure of the old fisherman, who is selling the produce of his trip; and the deaf listener is excellent. The natural scenery of this picture is also admirable, with the exception of the sky-which is indifferent.-" The Bay of Baiæ," by Turner, is somewhat different from the last-mentioned work, and not quite so natural. It is, in fact, a most meretricious performance, displaying infinite skill in the handling, but a most perverse taste in the colouring and general effect, as well as in the treatment of the mythological figures introduced .--- " A scene in Borrowdale," by Collins, is a beautiful contrast to this execrable colouring.—Stephanoff's " Reconciliation," representing the father forgiving his daughter for a run- ed with thorns)—is conspicuous away match, is very inferior to several of his previous efforts. The story is plainly enough told; but there is a mawkishness and want of spirit in almost every part of it---except the old naval uncle in the back-ground, who is the only person seeming to care much about the matter .--- We now arrive at Wilkie's two pictures; a" Portrait of the Duke of York," and the "Parish Beadle." The first requires scarcely any mention. It is richly coloured, and highly finished in many parts; but the likeness is bad; and it is upon the whole a picture which, if the artist could not or did not choose to avoid painting, he need not have exhibited as a specimen of his powers. But the "Parish Readle" is a work that from its striking deficiencies surprises us even more than the above, and pleases us still less. The Beadle is just about to lodge in prison a

company of itinerant foreign minstrels and strollers---for no reason that is in any way made apparent in the picture; and (what is a greater defect) without producing any particular developement of character or humour. The principal figures---the man and woman-are exceedingly well drawn. and the heads are fine and full of meaning; and the monkey, seated on the shoulder of the little moping Savoyard, is exquisite. But neither these, nor any of the other figures, are much acted on by the circumstances in which they are placed; and we cannot help regarding the picture, upon the whole, as evidence of a fine subject, totally neglected thrown away.

One by Westall—(Christ crownfrom its subject, size, and situstion,-but very little so from its

superior merit.

Calcott has but one picture this year, a View at Rotterdam. It has all his fine natural tone about it. but is not of importance enough to require farther mention.—Hilton's Lady in Comus. This is perhaps the most striking picture in the room, and certainly it is among the very best. The expressions throughout-with the exception of that of Comus—are good; and that of the lady—self-preserved from the spells that are about her, or rendering them all nugatory by the stronger spell of virtue that is within her-is admirable. Her inupturned countenanceearnest and anxious, but not discomposed - is very poetical and appropriate; and her attitude. shrinking within itself, is exquisite. The satyrs are also very rich and racy, many of them; and the grouping

grouping is skilful. The colouring, however, is not so good in many particulars, though it is tolerably harmonious as a whole; and the picture is far from decreasing this artist's reputation.

In passing through the other rooms of the Academy, we find scarcely any thing else of sufficient merit to justify us in overstepping the limits of these notices.

The Model Academy exhibits nothing of surpassing merit. West-macott's Cupid is a very pleasing companion to his last year's Psyche, but greatly beneath that statue in both grace and beauty; and Canova's Danzatrice has great life and spirit, but not much grace.

EXHIBITION OF THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS.—
The above-named Society opened their new Gallery in Pall-Mall East, with a general selection from the works of British artists in this department, most of which have been included in their previous exhibitions during the last seventeen years.

Mr. Nash's Tomb of Louis Robsart (3) -- though too much like Prout's style without being it ---is powerful and clever. Glover's Windsor Castle (19) is charmingly natural and rich; and the next picture to it--Cristall's Boy and Child at a Cottage-door --- has great and very characteristic merit. This artist's style is no less original than it is forcible and spirited; and he succeeds in these common-life subjects equally well with the classical ones which seem more in favour with him. His picture of the Coast of Sussex, with vessels in a gale, &c. (35) is admirable.

No. 68, the Doubtful Shilling,

is very good: but by far the best, is one called the Michaelmas Dinner (145), in which all the parties present are watching, with different expressions of face, the dismembering of what appears to be a last year's goose. The man who is performing the office in idea, with his compressed lips, clenched hands, &c. is capital .-- 79 is a charmingly clear and spirited View of Hastings, by Copley Fielding; and 94 and 95, by the same excellent artist, are scarcely inferior to any pictures in the room. first (Chepstow) is exceedingly rich, elaborate, and glowing; but the delightful View of Brougham Castle pleases us best. In a very different style, but admirable for its brilliant and spirited effect, is 138 --- a distant View of Lowther Castle, by P. Dewint. Reinagle's View of Pæstum (155) is also remarkably characteristic of the scene. The two magnificent temples are standing in a sublime and gloomy loneliness, with the slant sun-rays pouring down upon them from behind a black cloud, as if the celestial traveller would not develope his full glories upon a scene of such desolation, but yet could not pass these objects by in his way without casting an admiring glance at their everlasting beauty .--- We meet with two or three of Glover's delightful scenes In particular 166, a View of Lancaster. --- We have only space to notice farther, Varley's scene from the Bride of Abydos, (181). This is one of the best pictures we remember to have seen by this artist; though it is one that will not be generally pleasing. It represents a spot "within the place of thousand tombs;" and there is a unity of effect throughout the

the whole of it. Every thing has a tomb-like air, and assimilates itself to the tombs that are about it. The poplars seem to start up like ghosts from the tomb-the willows hang downwards, pointing their thousand fingers to the graves below---the overshadowing clouds seem to have risen like exhalations from the sick earth--and the bridge that runs across the centre of the scene, looks like the arches of a burial vault exposed to view.

The British Institution has this year some interesting and highly meritorious performances. Among these we notice the Royal Banquet, by George Jones, purchased by the Earl of Liverpool for 500gs.; Belinda at her Toilette, by H. Fradell, purchased by J. Fitzgerald, Esq. for 100gs; the Prodigal Son, by Graham, purchased by

Hurst, Robinson and Co. for 100gs; the Upper Lake of Killarney, W. Cowen, and the Lake of Lugano, W. Cowen, both purchased by Earl Fitzwilliam, at

60gs. a piece.

The collection of old masters at the British Institution is not so fine this year as in some that have preceded it, yet it is admirable. One room is filled Joshua Reynolds.—Rubens, Rembrandt, Claude, Leo. da Vinci, Nicolo Paul Veronese, Guido, Abati, and others, form the beauteous constellation.

Many other exhibitions adom the metropolis; among them Mr. Glover's, Mr. Angerstein's, &c. some of them of singular merit: nor should the beautiful Panora-Cosmoramas, and still more beautiful Dioramas, (the last the invention of this year,) be forgotten. •

# POETRY.

## CHORUS OF SPIRITS PRECEDING THE DELUGE.

(From Lord Byron's Poem of "Heaven and Earth.")

HARK! hark! already can we hear the voice
Of growing ocean's gloomy swell;
The winds, too, plume their piercing wings!
The clouds have nearly filled their springs;
The fountains of the great deep shall be broken,
And heaven set wide her windows; while mankind
View, unacknowledged, each tremendous token--Still, as they were from the beginning, blind.
We hear the sound they cannot hear,
The mustering thunders of the threatening sphere;

Yet a few hours their coming is delay'd;
Their flashing banners, folded still on high,
Yet undisplay'd

Yet undisplay'd,

Save to the Spirits' all pervading eye.

Howl! howl! oh Earth!

Thy death is nearer than thy recent birth.

Tremble, ye mountains, soon to shrink below

The ocean's overflow!

The waves shall break upon your cliffs; and shells,
The little shells of ocean's least things, be
Deposed where now the eagle's offspring dwells--How shall he shriek o'er the remorseless sea!
And call his nestlings up with fruitless yell,
Unanswered, save by the encroaching swell;--While man shall long in vain for his broad wings,

The wings which could not save :---Where could he rest them, while the whole space brings Nought to his eye beyond the deep, his grave?

# THE INCANTATION OF NAMA OF HER ANGEL LORD FROM A WOOD.

(From Moore's "Loves of the Angels.")

"I've fed the altar in my bower
With droppings from the incense tree;
I've shelter'd it from wind and shower,
But dim it burns the livelong hour,
As if, like me, it had no power
Of life or lustre, without thee!

"A boat at midnight sent alone
To drift upon the moonless sea,
A lute, whose leading chord is gone,
A wounded bird, that bath but one
Imperfect wing to soar upon,
Are like what I am, without thee!"

#### A PASTORAL PICTURE

Of Deucalion and Pyrrha in Thessaly—their loves, their union, and their happiness.

(From " The Flood of Thessaly," by Barry Cornwall.)

At last they wed: No voice of parent spoke Ungentle words, which now too often mar Life's first fair passion: then no gods of gold, Usurping, swayed with bitter tyranny That sad domain the heart. Love's rule was free, (Ranging through boundless air and happy heaven, And earth,) when Pyrrha wed the Titan's son. -The winds sang at their nuptial gentle tunes, And roses opened, on whose crimson hearts The colour of love is stamped; and odours rare Came steaming from the morn-awakening flowers, Which then forgot to close: Thessalian pipes Were heard in valleys, and from thickets green The Sylvans peeped delighted, then drew back And shouted through the glades: Wood nymphs lay then Beside the banks of running rivers, glad For once to hear the shepherd's simple song; And many a pleasant strife that night was had On oaten reed and pastoral instrument, Beneath the mild eye of the quiet moon. "Joy to Pandora's child! Supreme delight To the great Titan's son !"—all shouted forth. "Joy!" and the words went through the far vales sounding, And through the forests tall, and over hills And dells, where slumberous meiancholy streams Awoke and gave an echo. In dark woods The wild horse started from his midnight sleep, And shook his mane and shrilly spoke aloud. The Nightingale lay silent in the leaves, For joy was grief to her; the timorous sheep Were silent; and the backward-glancing hare Lay close, and scarce the wild deer stirred the fern.

## ON THE GRECIAN MYTHOLOGY.

(Original Sonnet, by Henry Neele.)

"Even to this day,
"Tis Jupiter who brings whate'er is great,
And Venus who brings ev'ry thing that's fair."

COLERIDGE, from Schiller.

Oh! ye divine creations, still the heart
Hoards worship for ye in its immost cure;
And though claspid hands and bended knees impart
Their homage at your hallow'd shrines no more,
Still from your brows undying splendours dart.

Immortal harps rang with your praise of yore, And their sweet echo still survives. The light That on your altars burns, has grown less bright,

But not less beautiful; and even now
It gilds life's sordid path, and shews us how
In this dull age, with pride and meanness fraught,
To steal out of the world's unwholesome fen
Into the silent sanctuaries of thought,
And hold high converse there with gods and godlike men.

## THE PEACH.

(By James Edmeston.)

I was born on a day of blossomy Spring, When the skylark first outspreads his wing, When he highest can soar, and sweetest sing;

Where the sun shines brightest, Where the zephyr breathes lightest, Where the butterflies play,

Where the honey-bees stray,
There I basked the summer long day;
And every morning, fresh and new,

I drank full draughts of the choicest dew; And the summer rolled on full gay:

But the sun shone bright,
And the sephyr breathed light,
And I drank the dew,
So fresh, and so new,
To heighten my bloom,
To enrich my perfume,

And ripen me, flavour me, Lady, for you! Then here! lie you lumble slave, And this is the only boon I crave—

That you praise my perfume, My flavour, my bloom,

When you lay me at last in my coral grave.

## TO \_\_\_\_

(By James Edmeston.)

My friend.--thy couch is gory,
And wet with the marshy tide;
But, bright with so much glory,
What wouldst thou have beside?

Though moor and desert bound thee,
And strangers tramp thy grave;
Though gaunt wolves prowl around thee,
And the field rat digs her cave;

As softly wilt thou slumber
As in thy chapel bed,
Enshrined among the number
Of all thy kindred dead.

Dark was thine hour of dying!
No glimmer pierced the shade,
Save the flash from the cannon flying,
And the spark on the sabre blade.

No woman's form was nigh thee!
Thy brow received no tear!
But gallant men stood by thee,
And gazed upon thy bier.

No sign, no death-bed blessing, No hand thy head sustained; But hostile arms were pressing, And round thee havoc reigned.

The minute cannon tolling,
In lieu of funeral bell,
The drum thy requiem rolling,
For saintly choral swell.

The plumes that waved above thee, Were all of snowy white, On the brows of those that love thee, And bore thee through the fight.

Wrapt in thy war-cloak sleeping, Thou hast a pall more proud Than funeral pages keeping Watch round a silken shroud.

In many a balmy slumber
That war-cloak lapt thee o'er;
And this among the number
As sweet as those before!

Thy Grave---no death-stones bound it, Unmarked, thy torn corpse lies; But glory shines around it, And glory never dies!

Farewell!---I sometimes view thee,
And deem thee here the while;
Though foreign showers bedew thee,
And I---tread thy native isle.

For memory can re-lighten
That open manly gaze,
That used to glance and brighten
In friendship's former days.

## THE BOX OF RELICKS.

## (By James Edmeston.)

Oh, raise not up that casket lid,
No riches there to tempt thee shine;
No pilfered treasure there lies hid,
Nor glittering gem from Ormian mine:
Yet, dearer than the diamond's blaze,
To me those seeming trifles are;
Memorials of departed days,
And wrecks of forms, though faded, fair.

Remembrancers---yet do not these
Alone diffuse this shadowy gloom—
The evening walk, the favourite trees,
The empty seat, the vacant room:
These tell me, wheresoe'er I go,
There was a time---though now 'tis past—
That once---it was not always so--But that was far too bright to last!

Yes---sightless to another's view,
To me, there lurks in many a place,
Beneath a heaven of cloudless blue,
A shade the sun can never chase:
And though afar should light, and day,
And every form I love, depart;
From memory I can never stray,
Nor lull the thoughts that burn my heart.

Yet might I close my aching eye, And some short hours of respite steal, Though dreams of joy might wast them by. I would not---it is sweet to feel: 'Tis sweet to catch the seraph tone Of love, ere yet the dream be fled; But sweeter, far, to sit alone, And meditate upon the dead.

# FAIRY TALE.

(By James Edmeston.)

Who hath not heard of the fairies' sport, Their elfin monarch, and glittering court? When the dance they have held by the rippling stream. While their glow-worm lamps in the darkness glearn: Or smiles the fair light of the pale moon beam, When the traveller, wildered in forest forlorn, Starts at the sound of their bugle horn, As footed the tiny masquers o'er The golden ripples and emerald shore; Or sailed their queen adown the flood, In yacht of agure harebells' bud; While proud her little navies ride In pigmy grandeur by her aide, In gallies of the meadow's pride. Listen a moment, and I will tell Of what, in the village, is known full well: In the midst of the forest of Berrytree There blossomed a circle right fair to see; The spot was dimpled in form of dell; It was the wood faes' favourite cell; Oh, 'twas the sweetest, wildest spot, That Nature ever made; There rose a flowery latticed grot, Of a thousand tinted shade.

The harebell's hue, and the violet blue, And the sweet-briar joined her fragrant bough; And the purple heath, and a woodbine wreath, Twined lovelily round its brow; And the thyme's perfume, and the yellow broom, Spread over the ground a golden bloom, And formed to the sight A carpet bright, Of richest fairy tapestry: And there the butterfly's crimson wings In winnowing circlets play;

And the wild bee, pirate of odours, brings

The spoils of the summer's day;
And the nightingale, lost to the midnight, sings
The sunshiny bours away:
The dragonet flutters from flower to flower,
And sips the drops of the new-fallen shower.

And once an infant, sweet and fair,
The fairies kept a prisoner there:
The mother had journeyed afar all day,
And, wearied and spent with the length of the way,
At eve she laid down and slept:
But when she awoke, at the break of dawn,
And found that her infant was lost and gone;
To see how she beat her poor bosom forlorn,
With her eyes all tears, and her hair all torn,

The coldest of hearts had wept.

She searched the copse and thickets wild,
But she saw no trace of her darling child:
She wandered and wandered full many a day,
But she saw no mark to point out the way,
Till broken of heart, could no more abide,
But laid her down on the turf and died.

The villagers knew the fairy spot,
And they gazed afar on a moonlight night;
And oft, in the midst of the flowery grot,
A figure stood dress'd in white;
But never a villager dared go nigh,
For they knew whom the fairies caught must die.
Many a summer rolled away,
And the figure by night was no longer seen;
But a hillock of leaves, and flowerets gay,

Sprang suddenly o'er the green;
And yet by the fine scathed oak it stands:
They say it was reared by fairy hands.

Funereal sweets of saddest bloom,
Enwreathe the melancholy tomb;
And the pale moonlight, in its way,
Turns to a paler, fainter tone;
A gentler, a more mournful ray,
Ere o'er the flowery spot it shone,
In undulating play;
And when the moon withdraws her light,
A thousand glow-worms glimmer bright,
A little narrow day;
And Philomel, the whole night long,
Pours forth her saddest, wildest song,
A sweet, a requiem lay;

And there the little faes resort,
And there the elf queen holds her court,
Choosing, as village hind has known,
This hillock for a fairy throne,
While round about, in royal state,
The little elves attendant wait,
Sport gaily through the midnight hours,
Or ambush underneath the flowers,
Dance on the golden rippled stream,
Or ride upon the lunar beam,
While village story sacred keeps
The spot where the fairy foundling sleeps.

## ECHOS.

(By James Edmeston.)

WE, the myriad, born of Sound,
Where the sweetest spots are found,
Over sea, over land,
An invisible band,
Sport all creation round and round;
We love not the plain,
Nor the sky-bounded main;
Nor delight in the region of ether to reign;
But enraptured we dwell
In the wood or the dell;
And an age-hollowed oak is a favourite cell,
A hilly clump, or a rocky shore,
We foot full merrily o'er and o'er.

Gay on Andalusian fields,
Purple, with autumnal sun,
When the grape its harvest yields,
When the summer toil is done;
Linked in rustic dance appear,
Spanish maid and cavalier;
Light they lead the dance along,
Heart to heart, and hand in hand:
Mirth, and merriment, and song,
Castanet and saraband:
Then upon a neighbouring hill,
Bands of Echos, lurking still,
Spring from ambush, dance, and play,
Lightly, merrily as they.

When the evening's magic power Tips with gold the heather flower, And all the plain delights the eye, With setting sunbeams' warmest dye; When along the silent grove
Meditation loves to rove,
All is sleeping, all is mute,
Save the warbling, dying strain,
Seeming sweetly to complain,
Breathing from the shepherd's flute;
Then, if chance the cadence fall
On some tower or abbey wall,
Oh, how lightly Echos bear

A fainter strain
Away again,
And melt it gently into air!

Seated by a dripping well, When a cavern spans it round, Manyan Echo loves to dwell,

Listening to the liquid sound. Since the driplets first begun, She hath told them one by one; Day and night her station kept, Never slumbered, never slept; But as drop by drop they die, Each she pays a single sigh, A momentary elegy.

In a rock upon the shore,
Oft we mock the ocean's roar;
Or on green hill side at dawn,
Carol to the huntsman's horn;
Or at evening in the dale,

On feet of air we steal along, Listening to the shepherd's tale, Or warbling to the shepherd's song. When in the vast cathedral nave,

The magic tones of music dwell; In some deep nook, or hero's grave,

We lurk, and answer swell for swell: Half the charms that music knows,

To the Echo's power she owes; But for us the sounds would fly Harshly, unmodulated by, And reft of cadent melody.

# FROM THE VESPERS OF PALERMO.

(By Mrs. Hemans.)

THE festal eve o'er earth and sky
In her sunset robe looks bright;
And the purple hills of Sicily
With their vineyards laugh in light;

# LITERARY RETROSPECT

[282]

From the marble cities of her plains, Glad voices mingling swell;—— But with yet more loud and lofty strains They shall hail the vesper-bell!

Oh! sweet its tones when the summer breeze
Its cadence wafts afar,
To float o'er the blue Sicilian seas,
As they gleam to the first pale star!
The shepherd greets them on his height,
The hermit in his cell;--But a deeper power shall breathe to-night
In the sound of the vesper-bell!

## LINES

Suggested by a Portrait of the unfortunate Queen of France, taken on the last Examination previous to her Execution.

(By Miss Holford.)

And this was she! the peerless and the bright,
The false world's darling! she who did possess
(And held awhile in Europe's dazzled sight)
Glorious in majesty and loveliness,
The Heaven-lent power to ruin or to bless!
Yes,—this was she!---But-mark ye, I beseech,
Who love the world,—mark this mute wretchedness,
And grave it on your hearts, for it doth reach
To regions unexplored by eloquence of speech!

Nature gave loveliness, and fate gave power,
And millions lavish'd incense,---poets hung
Their amaranth over the royal bower;
For Gallia's lily every lyre was strung,
Pride of all eyes, and theme of every tongue:--Love, Awe, and Wonder, were her ministers;
Life, and its hours, upon her flat hung;
She held in poise a nation's hopes and fears—
Dominion, beauty, pomp, and the world's shout, were hers!

Gracious and mighty! Yet there came an hour Of desolation; and away it swept,
In one rude whirlwind, empire, pomp, and power!
On the fair brow the hoary winter crept Of Sorrow, not of Time.---Those eyes have wept, Till Grief had done with tears, and calm and cold, Tired with its own excess, in stupor slept, Or gazed in frozen wonder to behold The black and hideous page of destiny unroll'd.

# AND SELECTIONS.

Yet trace these faded lines! For they impart
A tale may do your careless bosoms good!

Muse o'er the fragments of a mighty heart,
Broken by sorrow:---ye, whose jocund mood
Insatiate feeds on Pleasure's tempting food,
Look here!---It will not harm ye, though your thought
Leave its gay flight to melt in Pity's flood!

To each light heart, home be the lesson brought,
With what enduring bliss the world's fair smile is fraught!

And is this all? No; --- ye may learn beside
That all which fate can threaten may be borne;
To see life's blessings, one by one, subside,
Its wild extremes from tenderness to scorn,
But as the changes of an April morn!
For still she was a queen!--- and majesty
Survived, though she, deserted and forlorn,
Save Heaven, had ne'er a friend to lift her eye;
But Heaven return'd the glance, and taught her how to die!

#### SONNET TO ----

(By Charles Johnson, Esq. of Dunson.)

Whether thy locks in natural beauty stray
Clust'ring like woodbine wild, or haply bound,
Like ivy wreathe thy polish'd brows around;
Whether within thine eyes' blue mirrors play
Mirth's arrowy beams or love's more soften'd ray;
Whether to the gay viol's pleasant sound
Thou minglest in the dance's airy round,
Thy light feet twinkling like the darts of day;
Or whether o'er the graceful harp thy frame,
More graceful yet, with eyes upraised, thou bendest,
And with its tones thy own, far sweeter, blendest;
Still thou art loveliest, varying, yet the same,
Still o'er my soul thine absolute sway extendest,
And from all other loves my heart defendest.

## TO A BUTTERFLY RESTING ON A SKULL.

(From the Literary Gazette.)

CBEATURE of air and light,
Emblem of that which may not fade or die!
Wilt thou not speed thy flight,
To chase the south-wind through the sunny-sky?
What lures thee thus to stay
With silence and decay,
Fix'd on the wreck of dull mortality?

The thoughts once chamber'd there
Have gather'd up their treasures, and are gone!
Will the dust tell us where
They that have burst the prison-house have flown?
Rise, nursling of the day,
If thou wouldst trace their way,
Earth has no voice to make the secret known.

Who seeks the vanish'd bird

By the forsaken nest and broken shell?

Far thence he sings unheard,

Yet free and joyous midst the woods to dwell!

Thou of the sunshine born,

Take the bright wings of morn!

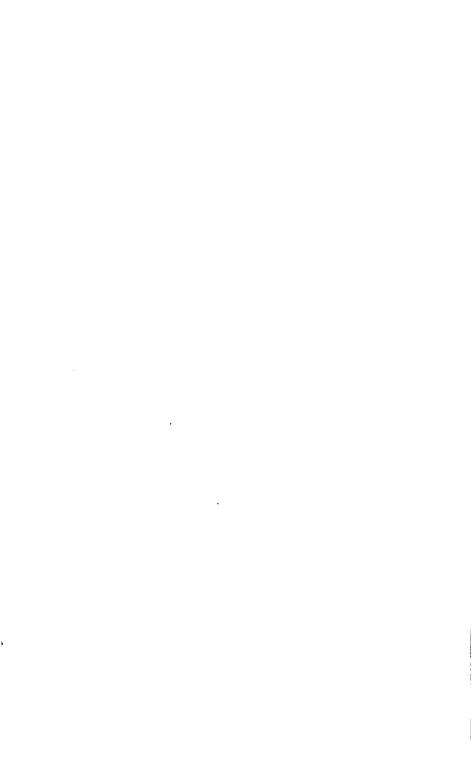
Thy tape calls heavenward from yon gloomy cell.

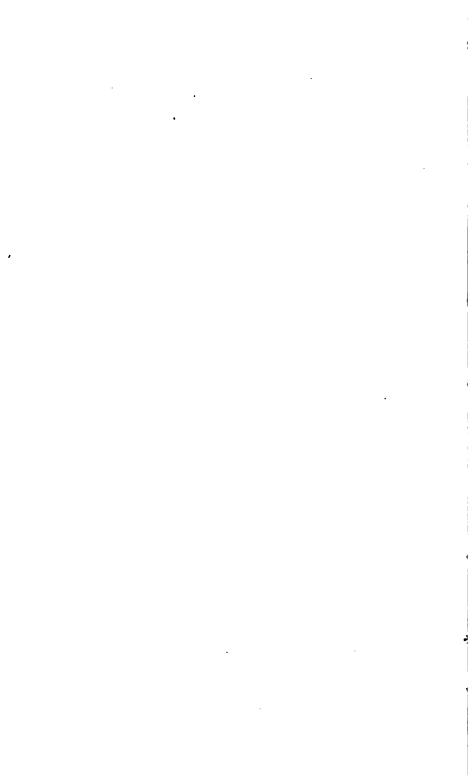
THE ENI

N

tondon:

PRINTED BY S. AND R. BENTLEY, DOESET STREET.





ı			

